アカギ

福本伸行

AKAGI ● Nobuyuki Fukumoto

Kindai Mahjong Comics

第25巻

Kindai mahjong Comics

アカギ 死地の闘牌 25

闇に降り立った天才

福本伸行 TAKE SHOBO

死地の闘牌

近代麻雀コミックス ● 竹書房

嘆きと呻吟からは結局のところ憤怒と自己嫌悪しか生まれない。
王にふさわしくない。
仄暗い壁のひび割れから悪心の天使がさまよい出した。
地獄の大剛と魂の契約を交わした王の兵隊である。
打天使は百元で賜く。王はあなたひとりです。
しかし侮ってはいけない。敵はあの白髪の男。
人間界にも魔界にも住まう処をもたない、妖しい男。
――後に神域の男と呼ばれ、裏社会に君臨する赤木しげるだった。

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闇に降り立った天才

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● アカギ ● 福本伸行 ● 「近代麻雀」好評連載中!!

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●TAKE SHOBO●

あらすじ

昭和33年。チキンランを生き残った少年・赤木しげるは、初めて打つ麻雀でも異才を発揮し、ヤクザ相手の勝負に次々と勝利を収めてゆく。昭和40年。退屈に倦んだ資産家・鷲巣は、血液を賭ける狂気の麻雀を行っていた。アカギ・仰木・安岡の3人は、殺人鬼・鷲巣を狩るため、生き血を賭けた勝負・鷲巣麻雀に挑む。6回戦南2局、鷲巣がリータンツモ裏3でハネ満を和了り、アカギの血液を300cc抜くことに成功。死したかに見えたアカギだったが黄泉返りを果たして復活。その様に一時落胆した鷲巣も「王はわしのみ」と復活する。気力に満ち、ここに南3局開戦。

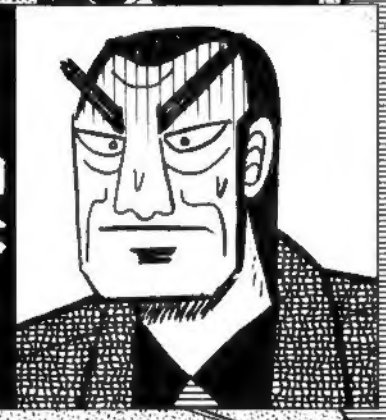
登場人物

鷲巣

権力を利用して巨万の富を築いた老人。麻雀で若者の命をもてあそぶ。

安岡

不良刑事。アカギを立てて鷲巣の資産5億円を奪おうとしている。



仲木

稲田組の若頭。安岡の誘いに乗りアカギを使って鷲巣に挑戦する。

鷲巣の部下たち。

【鷲巣麻雀概要】

アカギが半荘6回戦を戦い抜けばアカギ側の勝利。途中でアカギが絶命すれば、それまでに得た現金も全て没収、鷲巣側の勝利となる。

●レート:1000点＝100万円＝血液100cc。アカギと鷲巣のサシ勝負。ウマ(1万・3万)・オカを加算したポイント差で半荘ごとに精算。アカギの致死量2000ccは点棒2万点に相当し、鷲巣の現有資産5億円は50万点に相当する。

●ガラス牌:1種4牌のうち3枚が透明ガラス牌。

●ボーナス払い:半荘精算時以外にも、アカギと鷲巣の間で直接点棒の移動があった場合には、その局ごとに血液or現金をやるとりする。

●鷲巣側の特例:半荘2回を区切りとして勝負を続行するか、途中終了するかを、鷲巣側のみ選択できる。

●5回戦終了時、新たに順位負けの血液精算とチョンボの支払いをアカギと鷲巣のサシで支払う取り決めを追加。

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9月1日号・10月1日号・11月1日号・12月1日号・
平成23年1月1日号・2月1日号所載

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Chapter 213: EMOTION
第213話 感情
IN THIS SOUTH 3RD ROUND!!
I'LL TEACH HIM...
BEING FRO-ZEN OVER!
.....
I'LL TEACH WASHI-ZU...
ALL ABOUT FEAR... ANXI-ETY...
AKAGI
...

YEAH?
LAST ROUND ...
HUH?
I'M SORRY.

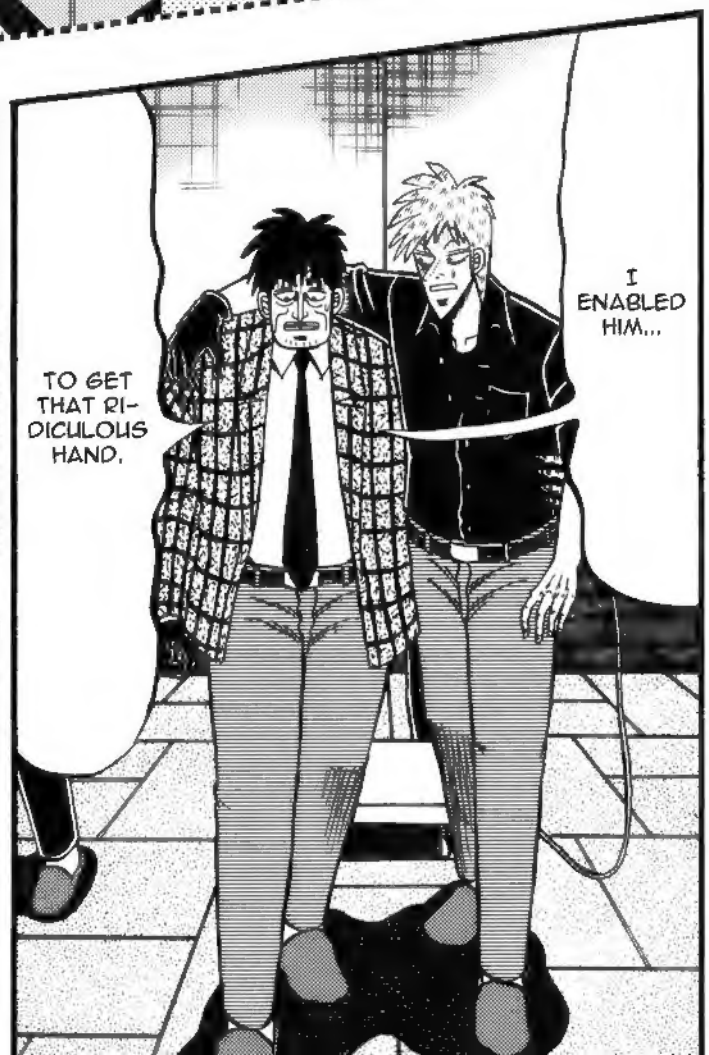
AND THAT PETTY TRICK...
I WENT AND HID A 4-PIN ON MY OWN...
IN THE SOUTH 2ND..

AND THAT...
AND CALL A RIICHI HE NORMALLY WOULDN'T MAKE!
LET WASHIZU BE RECK-LESS...

GETTING ENOUGH URA-DORA FOR HANE-MAN!!
RESULTED IN THIS TSUMO WIN!

IF I HADN'T DONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
OR IN OTHER WORDS...

IF I'D JUST LET IT PLAY OUT...


I ENABLED HIM...
TO GET THAT RI-DICULOUS HAND.

WASHIZU...
WOULD'VE JUST HAD SUZUKI DEAL IN.
WE COULD STILL DEAL WITH THAT.
SINCE...
IT AT LEAST WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN A TSUMO!
MEANING...
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO PAY...
OR LOSE ANY BLOOD!
MY DUMB-ASS TRICK...

JUST WOUND UP BACKFIRING ON US...
YASUO-KA-SAN ...

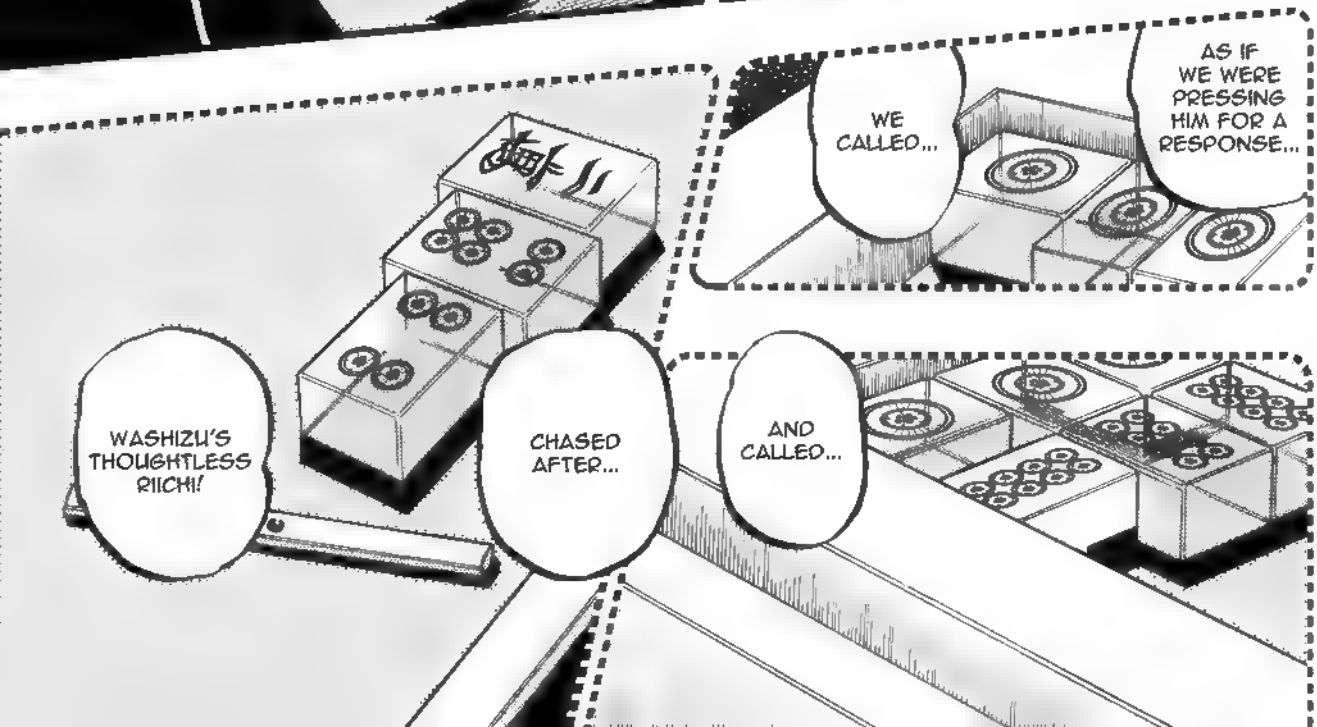
I CAME BACK, DIDN'T I?

YOU CAME BACK FROM THE DEAD! MIRACU-LOUSLY!
UH... YEAH!
THEN IN THAT CASE...

IT DIDN'T BACKFIRE.
IT DIDN'T...?
...?
THAT'S RIGHT.
EVEN THOUGH ...

I FELL TO THE BOTTOM... THE ABYSS OF THE SEA OF DEATH...
SO LONG AS I MANAGED TO SWIM BACK...

YOUR TRICK AWAKENED SOME-THING!
THAT SOUTH 3NO ROUND ...
GAVE BIRTH TO SOMETHING NEW!


AS IF WE WERE PRESSING HIM FOR A RESPONSE...
WE CALLED...
AND CALLED...
CHASED AFTER...
WASHIZU'S THOUGHTLESS RIICHI!

WITH THAT ILLUSION OF A MANGAN HAND!

BECAUSE OF THE CHANCE OF A HANEMAN TSUMO LIKE THAT!

ALL THAT WOULD DO IS TAKE ON MORE RISK...

The hand Washizu won with in the South 2nd Round

AND PAVE THE WAY FOR MY OWN RUIN...

WHILE GETTING NOTHING BUT A BLUFF WITH NO CHANCE OF WINNING.

BUT...

Akagi's Hand

THINKING ABOUT LETTING WASHIZU DRAW...

NORMALLY, THAT'S A WAY WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE PLAYED!

WE DEALT A BLOW TO WASHIZU!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY...
RIGHT THEN, WASHI-ZU...
WAS ABSO-LUTELY, DEFI-NITELY...
TREMBLING IN THE DEPTHS OF HIS HEART!
FEELING A GRAVE REGRET FOR WHAT HE'D DONE!

THINKING "HOW COULD I MAKE SUCH A STUPID RIICHI"...!
HM-HMM...
AKAGI...
WHICH IS WHY...
IT DIDN'T BACKFIRE!

MADE HIM REFLECT ON HIS ACTIONS!

I BROUGHT WASHIZU DOWN TO EARTH...

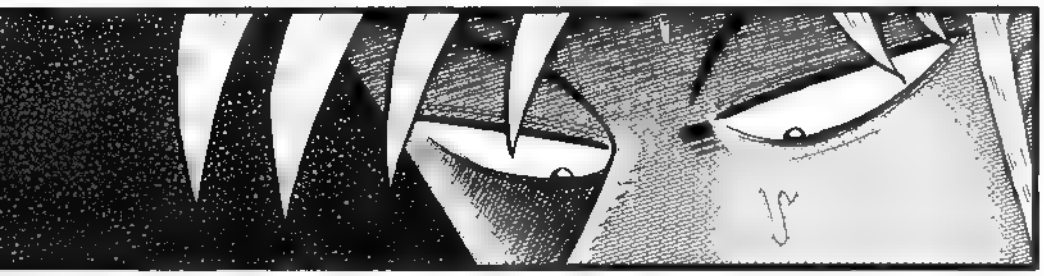
I WOKE HIM UP!

WITH THAT BLUFF...

THAT BLUFF DIDN'T BACKFIRE!

MADE HIS EMOTIONS FREEZE OVER!

AND IN DOING SO... MADE HIM FEAR!



ONCE YOU START TO FEAR ...

ガシッ
ガシッ
YOU WON'T GET OUT ALIVE!
YOU CAN'T AVOID YOUR DEA-TH!!
SO DIE! DIE DIE DIE!!!
JUST DIE AL-READY!!
IT'S THE SAME, EITHER WAY!

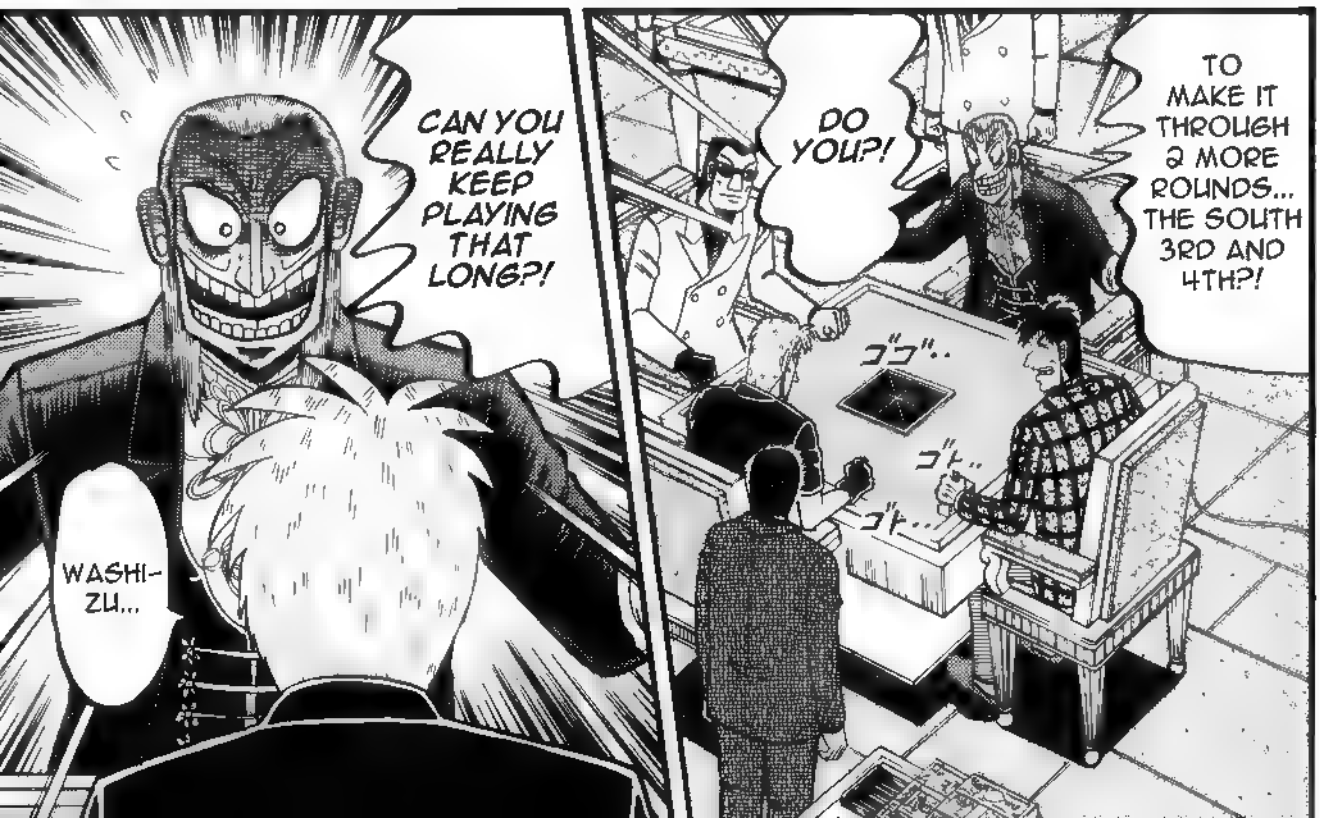
THE RESULT WILL BE THE SAME!
AFTER JUST 1 OR 2 MORE ROUNDS ...
SO JUST DIE!
SO DIE!
QUIT DELAYING THE INEVI-TABLE!
JUST GIVE IT UP!
GIVE IT ALL A REST!!

ボト..
ボト..
ボト..
ボト..

LOOK, YOU CAN'T EVEN PUSH THE TILES IN!
KHAH-HAH-HAH!

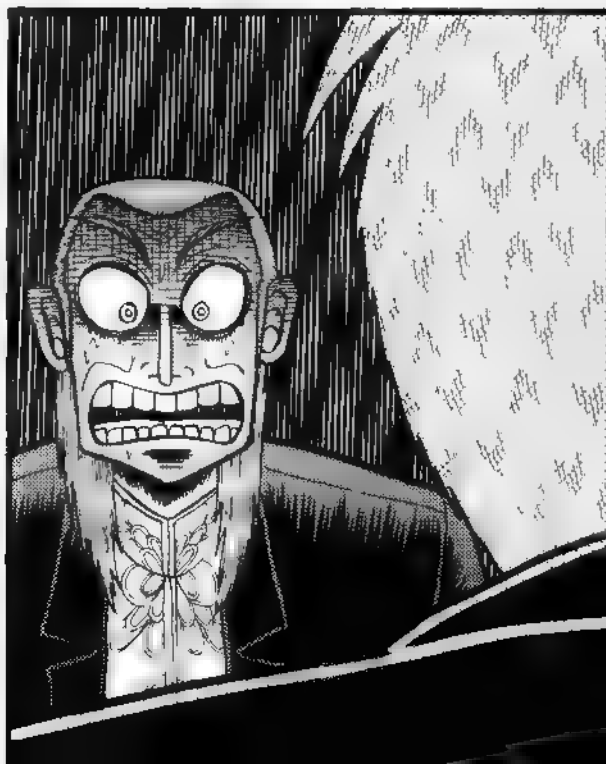
ボト..
WITHOUT TREM-BLING!!
YOU CAN'T EVEN PUSH THE TILES BACK TO THE DRAW PILE...

DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH STREN-GTH...
DO YOU HAVE IT IN YOU?
KHEH-HEH-HEH!


CAN YOU REALLY KEEP PLAYING THAT LONG?!
WASHI-ZU...
DO YOU?!
TO MAKE IT THROUGH 2 MORE ROUNDS... THE SOUTH 3RD AND 4TH?!
ゴゴ..
ゴト..
ゴト...

I DON'T INTEND ...
ON HAVING A SOUTH 4TH ROUND.

HUH?
IT'S LIKE YOU SAID...
ゴト...
ゴ...
ゴゴ...

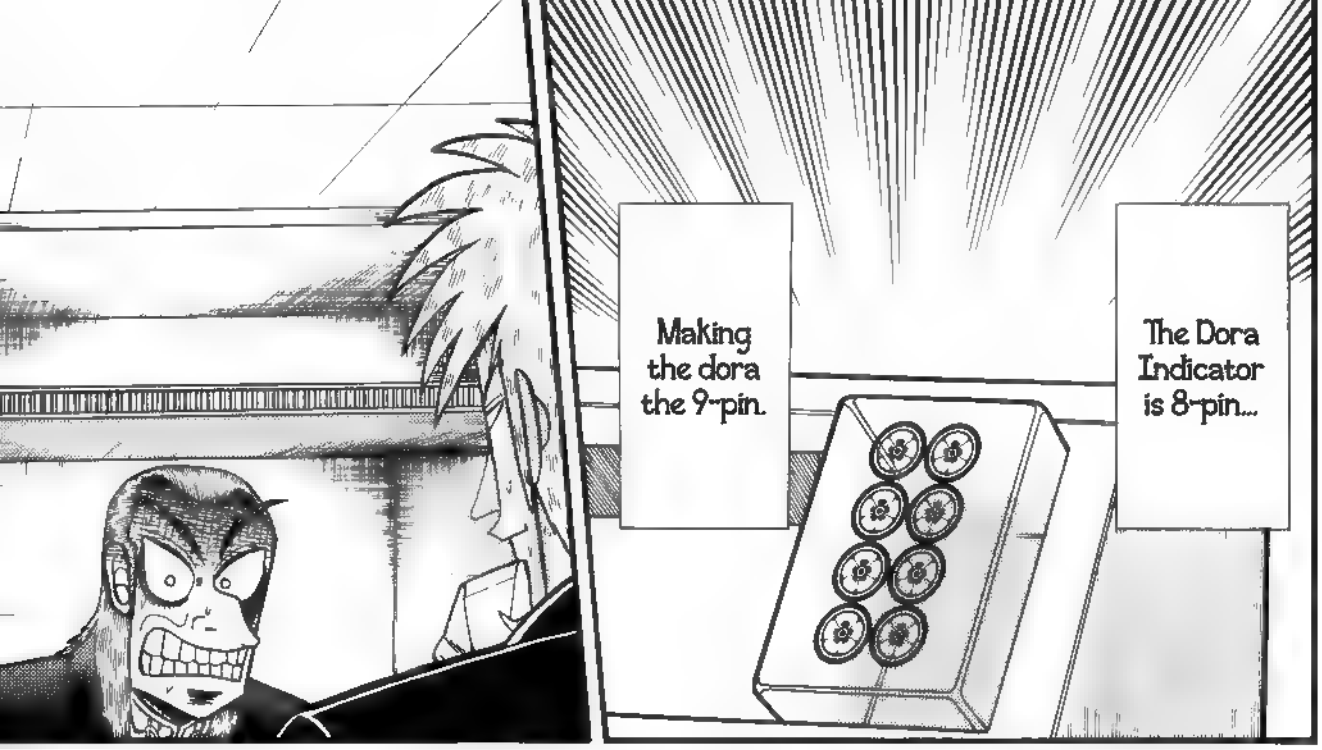


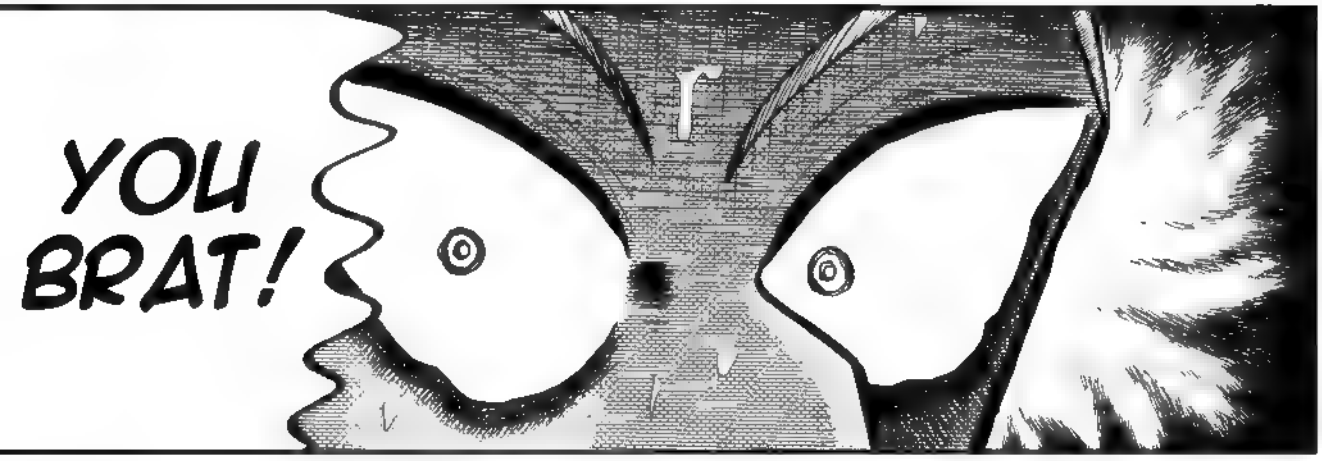
I THINK IT'D BE PRETTY DANGER-OUS...
FOR ME TO PLAY ANOTHER TWO ROUNDS, AS WELL.
WHICH IS WHY, THIS SOUTH 3RD ROUND...
IT'LL ALL END IN THIS SOUTH 3RD ROUND!
ゴト..
ゴト..
ゴト..
ゴ..
I PLAN ON DYING IN THIS ROUND!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF...
AGAINST MY...

SUICIDAL
...
GAME OF MAHJONG?
GGH ...!!

CHAPTER 214: NONSENSE
第214話 戯言

SUICIDAL GAME OF MAHJONG?
GRAUGH!!
6th Session, South 3rd Round


Making the dora the 9-pin.
The Dora Indicator is 8-pin...


YOU BRAT!

JUVE-NILE!!
BRAT! KID!!
AS OP-POSED TO ME...
BY ALL RIGHTS, ALL YOU ARE IS SOME INEXPERIENCED KID!
AKAG!!

AN EMPER-OR!!!

DON'T FEEL SO HAUGH-TY!
KNOW YOUR PLACE!!
YOU WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE ME FACE TO FACE!!
WHICH IS WHY, NORMALLY ...
FOR I AM A KING!!!

AN EMPER-OR!!
EMPEROR!!
EMPEROR!!
EM-PER-OR!!
EM-PER-OR!!

I AM FAR DIFFERENT FROM THE LIKES OF YOU!!
HM-HMM-HMM...

WE'RE THE SAME RANK!

EEEEUGHHH!!!

NNGH!

EVERY-ONE IS THE SAME RANK!!

IN A GAMBLE, THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS AN EMPEROR OR A KID...

East Seat: Washizu (112,800 points)
Lost Blood: 1,100 ccs
Lost Money: 600 Million Yen
*Includes the extra 100 Million added after the 4th Session

6th Session, South 3rd Round
West Seat: Akagi (57,800 points)
Lost Blood: 2,300 ccs
*Includes the 500 ccs transfused before the match

NO... RATHER, HE NO LONGER HAS ANY STRATEGY BUT TO ACT LIKE THIS!

THIS IS PART OF HIS STRATEGY!

PLEASE CALM DOWN...

WASH - ZL~ SAMA!

COMMONER!! PLEBEIAN!! PEASANT!!

GAUGH!

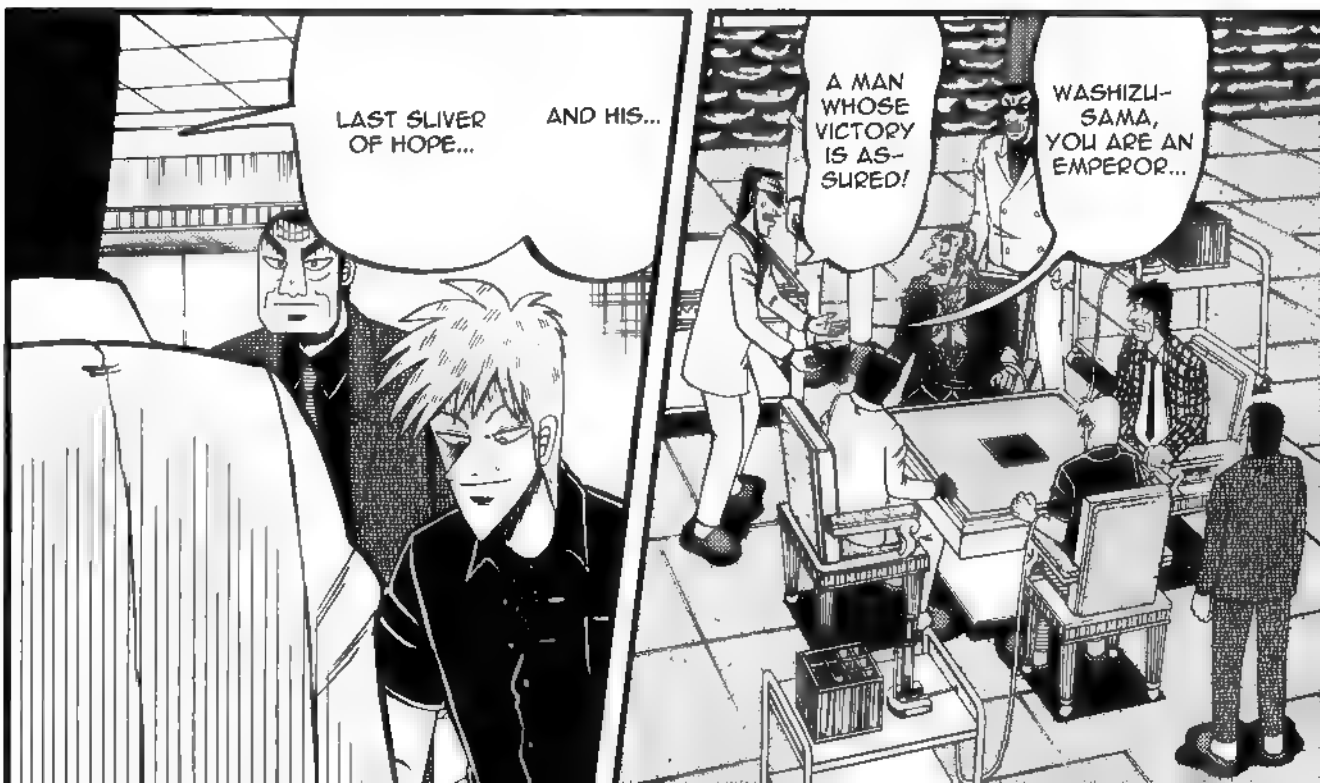
NOT EVEN A BIT!

I'M NOT AFRAID.

WHICH IS WHY...

NO MATTER WHAT AKAGI SAYS...
ハア...
ハア...
ハア...
I... I KNOW THAT!!
HE'S TRYING TO MAKE YOU LOSE YOUR PRESENCE OF MIND!
WITH THIS FOOLISH, COWARDLY PROVOCATION...

IS SECURE!!
YOUR ADVANTAGE, WASHIZU-SAMA...


LAST SLIVER OF HOPE...
AND HIS...
A MAN WHOSE VICTORY IS ASSURED!
WASHIZU-SAMA, YOU ARE AN EMPEROR...

GOING INTO THE MATCH RECK-LESSLY!
IS TO BET ON YOU SELF-DESTRUCT-ING!!

I KNOW THAT, AL-READY!!
GAU-GH!!
YOU MUSTN'T GIVE INTO HIS TAUNTS!

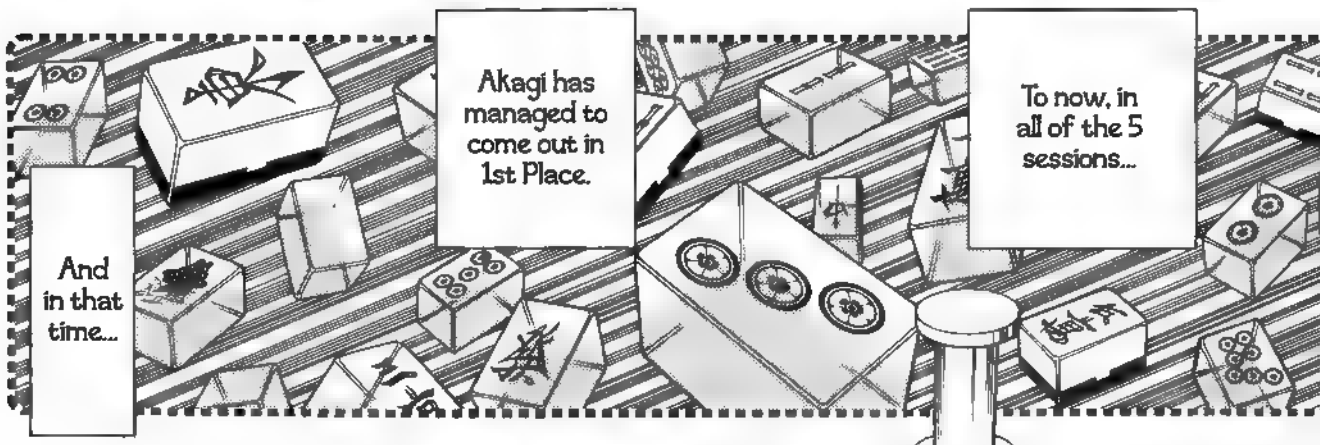
I SHAN'T GIVE IN!
TO THAT FOOL-ISH TWIT-TER!!
GRASP-ING AT STRAWS ...
TO THAT DESPERATE MAN...
Washizu Mahjong

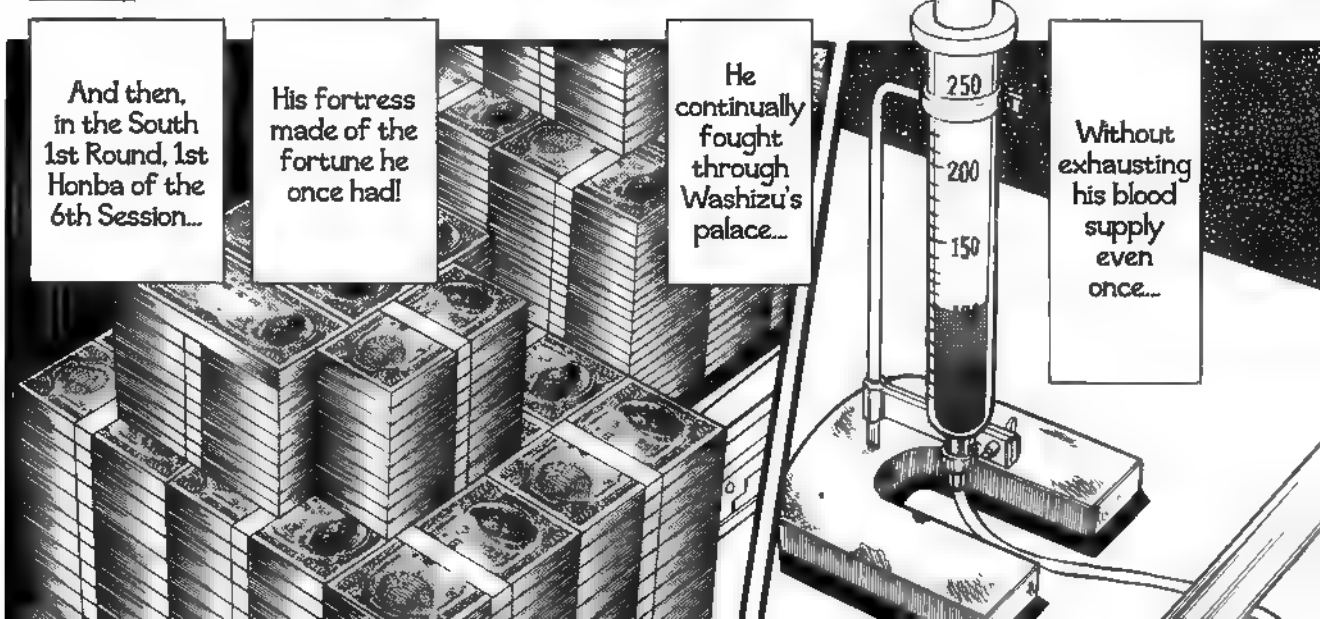
The starting hands are now being drawn!
It is the final, 6th Session, in the South 3rd Round.

Between the genius and the monster...
The death struggle...
The long match between Akagi and Washizu...
In just two more rounds...

Be laid to rest!!
In just 2 more rounds...
Will finally...

All of it!!


And in that time...
Akagi has managed to come out in 1st Place.
To now, in all of the 5 sessions...


And then, in the South 1st Round, 1st Honba of the 6th Session...
His fortress made of the fortune he once had!
He continually fought through Washizu's palace...
250
200
150
Without exhausting his blood supply even once...

Washizu's fortune had finally run dry!
He was made to bet his own blood!
He had been dragged in...
To a game of Washizu Mahjong where both players bet their blood!!!
As the Honba kept piling up in the South 1st Round...

That Akagi's road to victory could not be blocked!

It seemed clear...

In this South 3rd Round...

And now...

Toppled the final blockade known as Akagi's Dealer Turn!

Which finally...

Washizu has an over-whelming advantage!

Gave him an un-believable starting hand...

Washizu's Luck of an Em-peror...

And yet...

First of all...
He has an insurmountable amount of points saved up in this 6th Session!
The difference between him and Akagi is 55,000...
To come back against that in just 2 rounds...
Is, realistically, impossible. That much cannot happen!

That is the situation at hand!
There is no need to worry about the points for him!
The problem ...

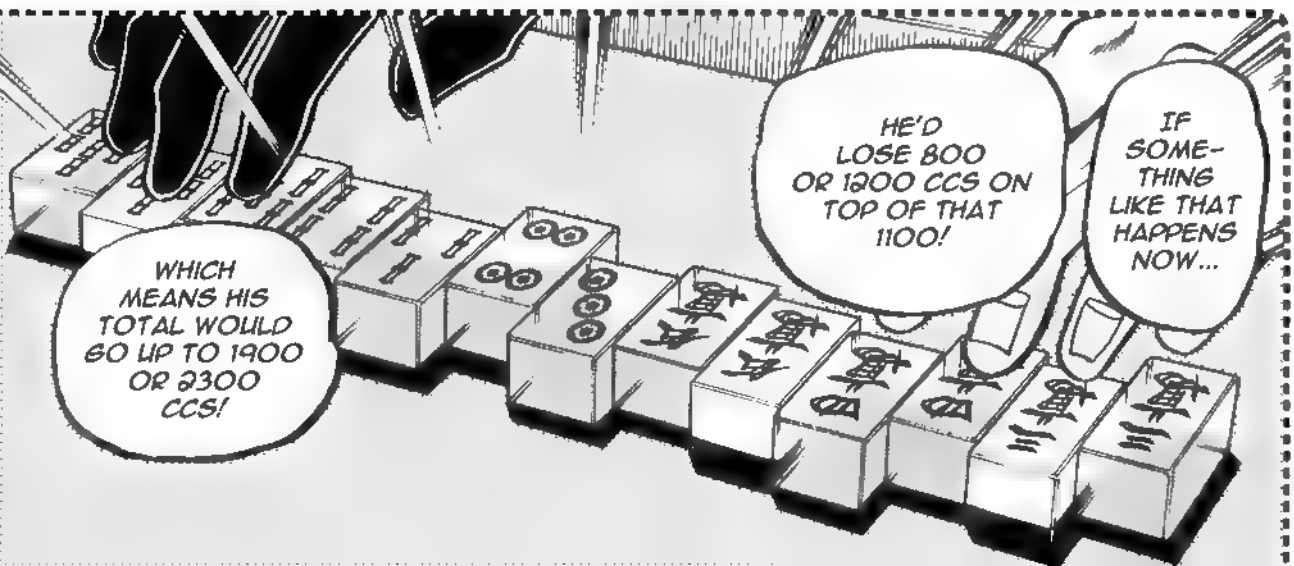
Is blood!
And while it's true...
That Washizu has lost less blood than Akagi...
Akagi: 2300 ccs lost (Effectively 1800 ccs)
Washizu: 1100 ccs lost

There are direct hits!
Even so, nothing is for certain!
With that aspect in mind...
And there are Tsumos! For either of these, the bonus payment that takes place...

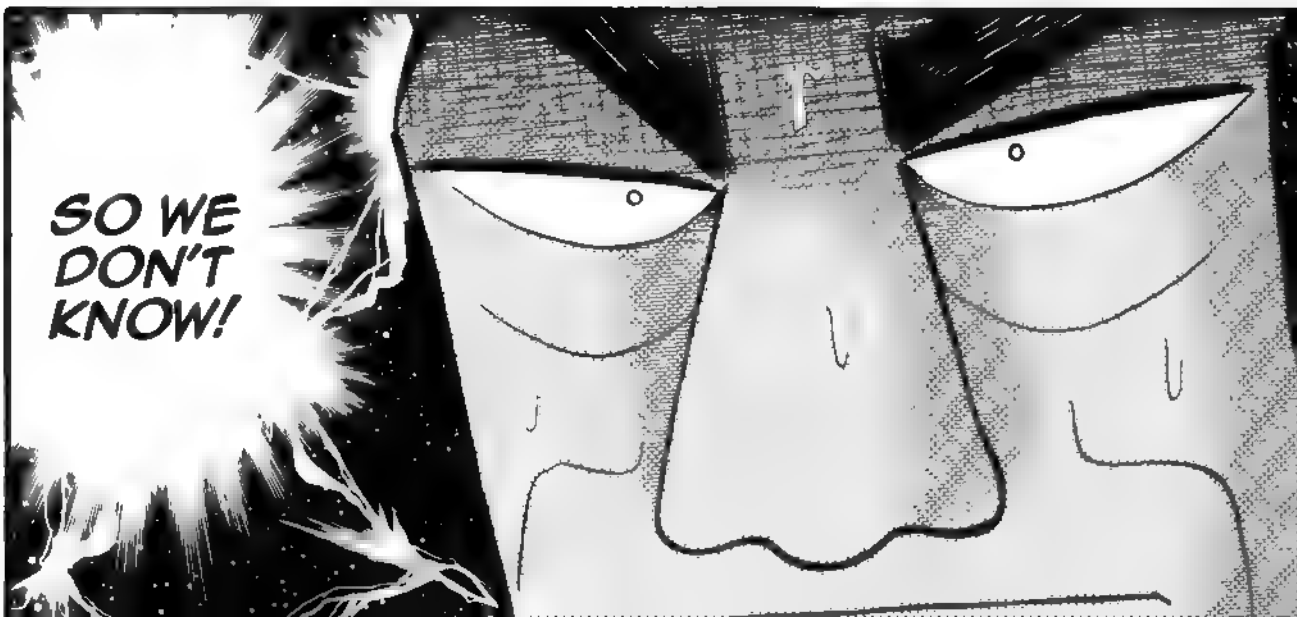
He cannot just run away with his lead!
Washizu is in danger!
A large risk still stands in his way!

YEAH..!

WITH A MANGAN OR HANEMAN DIRECT HIT...
WHICH MEANS ...
WASHIZU'S LOST 1100 CCS SO FAR...


WHICH MEANS HIS TOTAL WOULD GO UP TO 1900 OR 2300 CCS!
HE'D LOSE 800 OR 1200 CCS ON TOP OF THAT 1100!
IF SOME-THING LIKE THAT HAPPENS NOW...

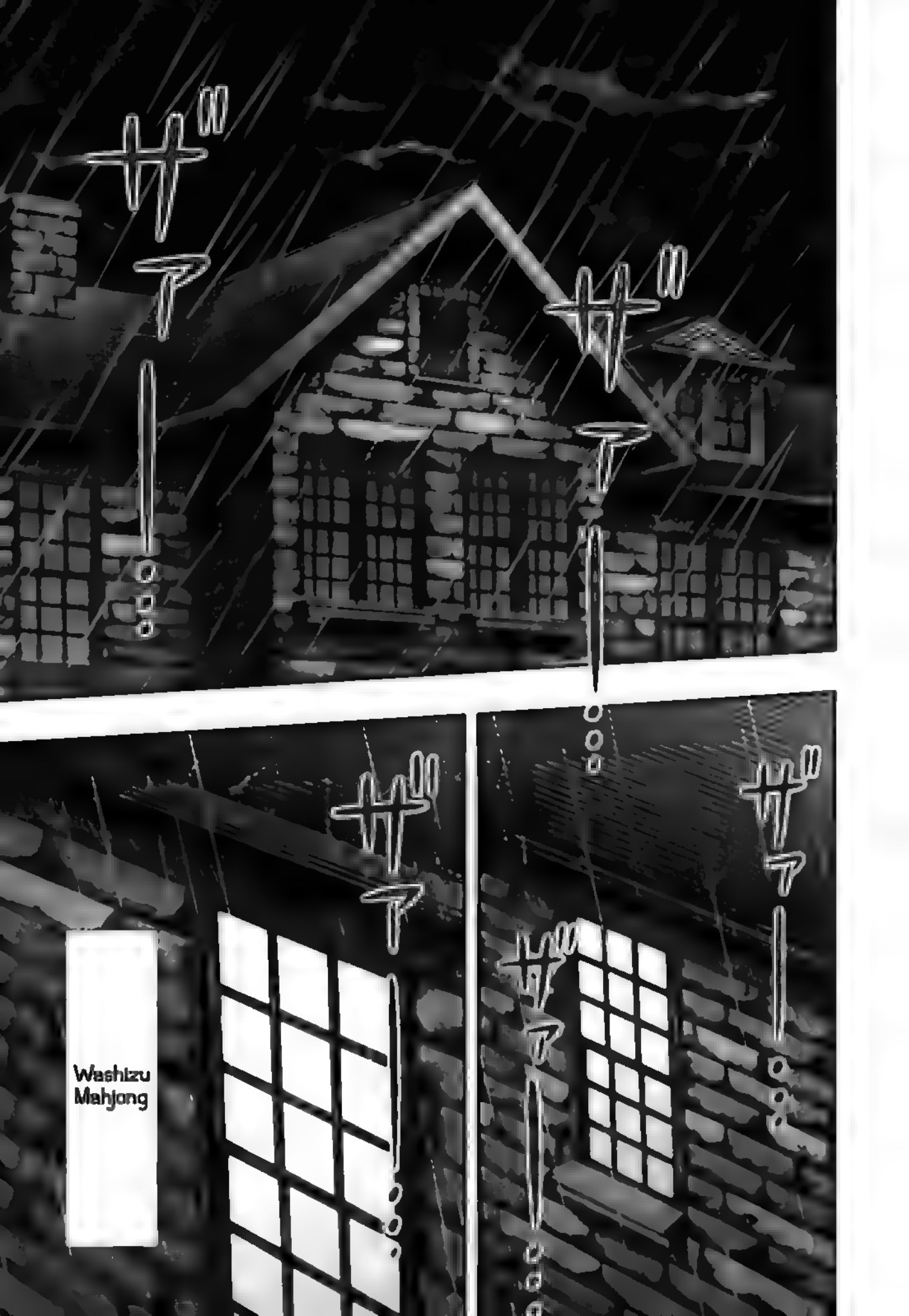
WASHIZU WOULD BE DONE FOR, THEN!


SO WE DON'T KNOW!

WE STILL DON'T KNOW!
THAT WHITE-SUIT OVER THERE...
SAID THAT WASHIZU'S VICTORY WAS SECURED OR SOMETHING...
BUT THAT WAS AN EXAGGERATION!

JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE FACING?
THIS IS AKAGI!

YOU REALLY THINK AKAGI...
AKAGI SHIGERU!
WOULD LET IT END LIKE THIS?!
Akagi's Starting Hand, in progress


Washizu
Mahjong

The starting hands are drawn...

For Washizu's dealer turn!!

South 3rd Round.

It is the final, 6th Session...

CHAPTER 215: GARBAGE HAND
第215話 屑手

Akagi...
They will die very soon...
One of these two is going to die...
Or Washizu!
There is no way around it!
Are drawn!!
.....
And the starting hands to decide their fates...

ナニ!!
……

IT'S A COMPLETE MESS SO FAR...

AWFUL...

Akagi's Starting Hand (in progress)

WELL...

IT'LL BE TRICKY... MAYBE EVEN IMPOSSIBLE.

TO DODGE ANY ATTEMPTS WE MAKE AT THAT.

WASHIZU SHOULD BE VERY ABLE...

IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT WHAT WE WANT THE MOST...

IN THE BEST CASE...

IN THIS SOUTH 3RD ROUND ...

WON'T BE ABLE TO STAND UP TO WASHIZU.

A HAND LIKE THIS...

WE'RE SCREWED IF THIS KEEPS UP...

AKAGI MANAGED TO GET SEVERAL MIRACULOUS DIRECT HITS...

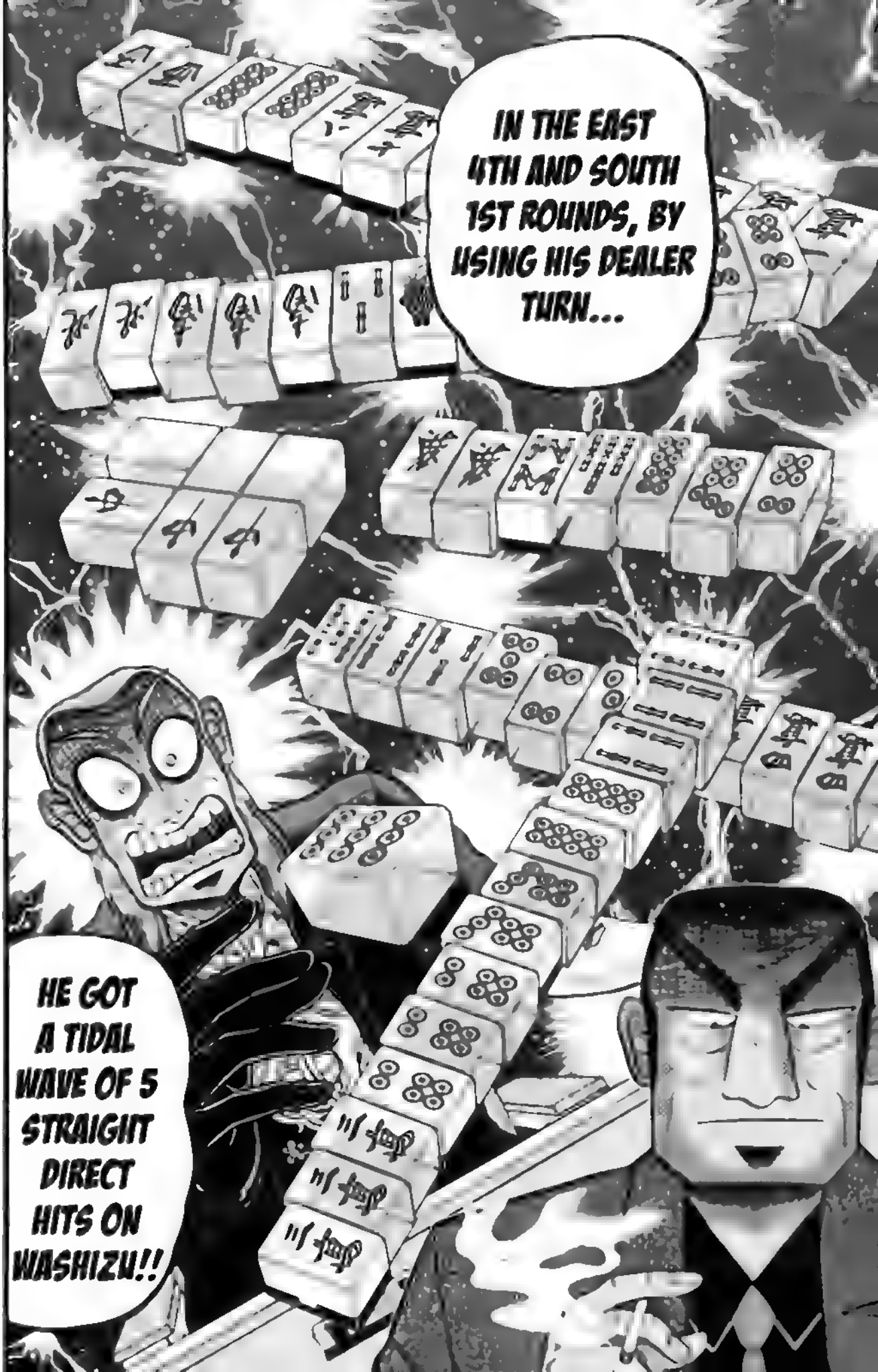
IT'S TRUE THAT, JUST A BIT AGO...

BUT REALLY ...

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR.

FOR MANGAN OR HANEMAN.

IT'D BE A DIRECT HIT ON WASHIZU...


IN THE EAST 4TH AND SOUTH 1ST ROUNDS, BY USING HIS DEALER TURN...
HE GOT A TIDAL WAVE OF 5 STRAIGIT DIRECT HITS ON WASHIZU!!

WE HAD THAT FACT GOING FOR US.
HE HAD TO STOP HIMSELF FROM PLAYING TOO CAREFULLY...
HOW-EVER
WASHIZU HAD TO PLAY IN A WAY TO STOP AKAGI'S DEALER WINS.
BUT BACK THEN...

JUST LET THE ROUND PASS BY.
FOR WASHIZU RIGHT NOW...
DON'T OVER-EXTEND...
NOW IT'S BEST FOR HIM TO PLAY CAREFULLY!
THIS TIME IS DIFFERENT!

WHICH IS WHY...
THAT'S WHAT HE WANTS MORE THAN ANYTHING!

FOR THE REST OF THE MATCH!
DIRECT HITS ARE GOING TO BE DIFFICULT...
East Seat: Washizu (112,800 points)
Lost Blood: 1,100 ccs
Lost Money: 600 Million Yen
*Includes the extra 100 Million added after the 4th Session
6th Session, South 3rd Round
West Seat: Akagi (57,800 points)
Lost Blood: 2,300 ccs
*Includes the 500 ccs transfused before the match

AKAGI
KA!!
七萬
南

I DON'T INTEND ON HAVING A SOUTH 4TH ROUND.
IS THAT WHY, A BIT AGO...
MUST KNOW THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE.

IT'LL ALL END IN THIS SOUTH 3RD ROUND!
WHICH IS WHY, THIS SOUTH 3RD ROUND...

IN TERMS OF JUST SURVIVING, A SOUTH 4TH ROUND WOULD BE DANGEROUS, BUT...
CER-TAIN-LY...
MORE THAN THAT...
...HE SAID ALL THAT?
I PLAN ON DYING IN THIS ROUND!

IF HE CAN TSUMO HERE, WASHIZU WILL PAY TWICE WHAT HE NORMALLY WOULD!

THIS IS WASHIZU'S DEALER TURN!

THE MOST PROBABLE ROAD TO A COMEBACK!

THAT'S THE MOST REALISTIC OPTION!

OF COURSE ...

THAT'S IT!

HE WANTS TO WIN BY TSUMO!

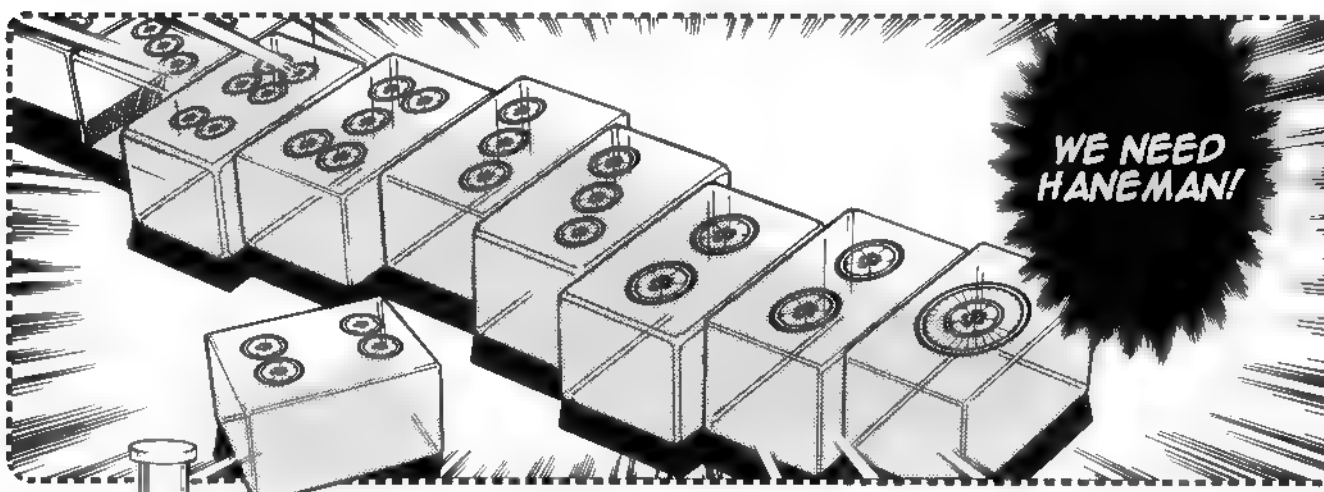
BUT A TSUMO!

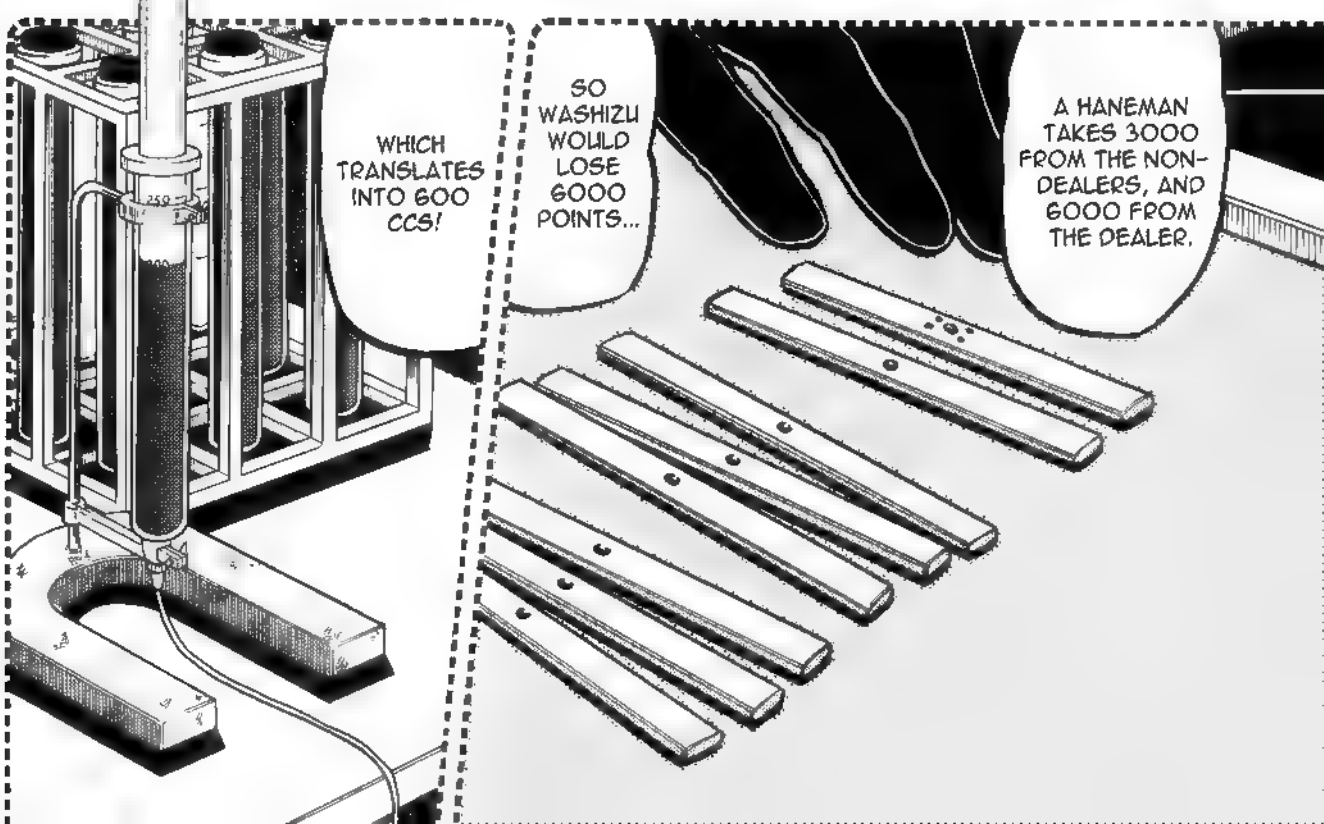
THAT WOULD MEAN IT'S NOT A DIRECT HIT...

IN THAT DEALER BONUS?

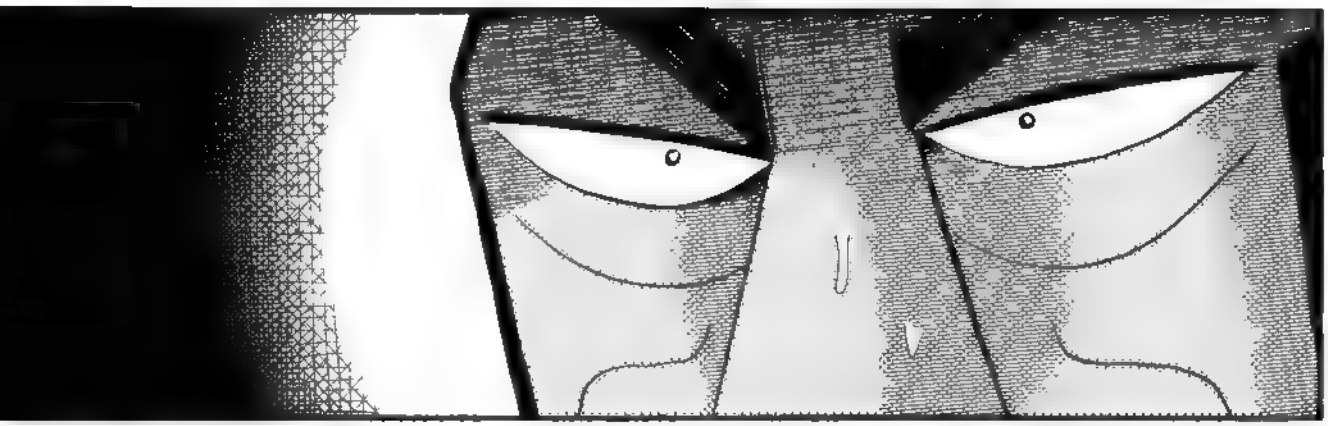
DOES HE SEE A CHANCE OF VICTORY...

NOT JUST ANY TSUMO WILL WORK...


WE NEED HANEMAN!


WHICH TRANSLATES INTO 600 CCS!
SO WASHIZU WOULD LOSE 6000 POINTS...
A HANEMAN TAKES 3000 FROM THE NON-DEALERS, AND 6000 FROM THE DEALER.

CONSIDERING WASHIZU'S AGE...
IT'S 1700!
WASHIZU'S ALREADY LOST 1100 CCS, SO...
THAT WOULD BE A TOTAL OF 1700 CCS.

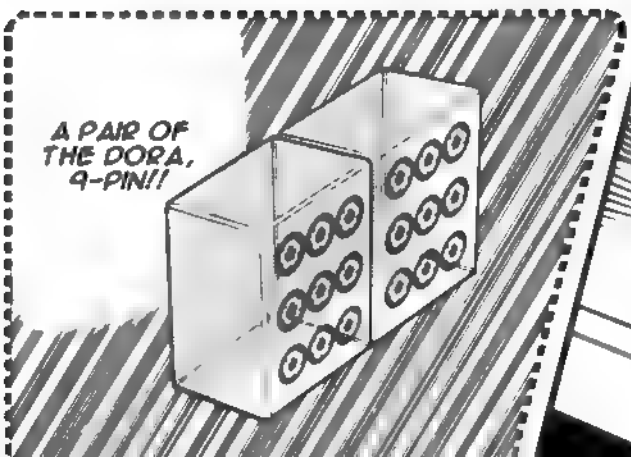


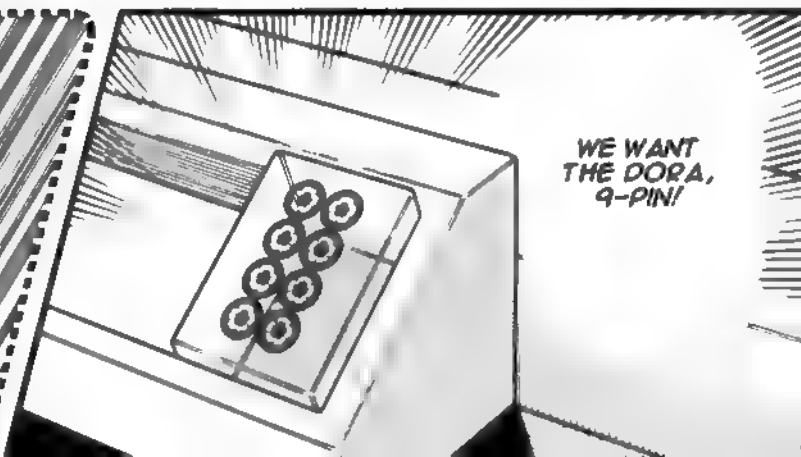
IF AKAGI WINS WITH A HANEMAN TSUMO!
IF AKAGI MAKES A HANEMAN TSUMO...
HELL, IT PROBABLY WOULD!
MEANING...
THAT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO END IT!

THIS KIND OF HAND!
Hon Itsu, Chun, Nan, 2 Dora
Riichi, Tsumo, Chii Toitsu, 2 Dora

WE NEED a DORA!

FOR EITHER ONE ..


A PAIR OF THE DORA, 9-PIN!!


WE WANT THE DORA, 9-PIN!

But...
It was no use!

He drew no dora!

Akagi's Starting Hand

IT'S BRUTAL!

POSSIBLY GET TO A HANEMAN TSUMO?

HOW CAN THIS HAND ...

IN THE FINAL STRETCH OF THIS LONG BATTLE!

WHAT A SHITTY HAND TO BE GETTING...

NO, WAIT...

NO DORA...

.....

IT'S JUST A SHIT HAND!

IT'S NOT A PROBLEM OF DORA!

FORSAKEN US?!
HAVE THEY?!?!
HAVE THE GODS...
GGH!
I WANNA CURSE AT THEM!
SHOUT AT THE GODS!
BLAS-PHEME THEM!

COMPLAIN ABOUT THIS HAND...
ABOUT THIS BAD LUCK!!
二萬
七萬
七萬
南
西
發
I MEAN, WHO WOULDN'T?!
THIS IS THE END OF IT ALL!
TO BE GETTING THIS GARBAGE..
AT THE END OF IT ALL..
No!

Only one man was differ-ent!

Only one person...
AHH...!
AH...

A peaceful look to them!
Had a calm air about them...
THOSE EYES
AREN'T SEEING A TRASH HAND!

HE'S SEEING SOMETHING PRECIOUS IN THIS HAND!
IT'S AS IF...

THAT'S RIGHT..
LIKE HE'S CURSING HIS FATE!
HE DOESN'T SEEM AT ALL...

AND THE IMPOSSIBLE FLOW!
THE BAD DRAWS...
THROUGH THE BAD LUCK.
THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE DEVELOPMENTS...
IT'S BE-CAUSE...
HE NEVER ONCE CURSED HIS FATE AT ANY OF IT!
THAT HE'S BEEN ABLE...
HE'S THAT KIND OF MAN...

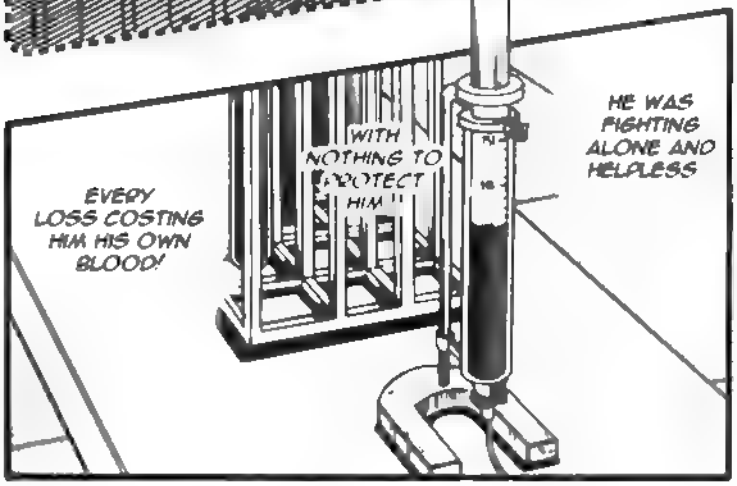
TO CHASE DOWN WASHIZU THE EMPEROR THIS FAR!!
AKAGI ...!!

.....
GGH...!
IF IT WERE JUST A MATTER OF LUCK, THERE'D BE NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT!
HE HAS AN INEX-HAUSTIBLE SUPPLY OF LUCK!
WASHIZU IS AN HONEST-TO-GOD MONSTER...

CHAPTER 216: NATURAL

第216話 自然

THE TWO STARTED OUT TOTALLY DIFFERENTLY!
PLUS
WASHIZU WAS PROTECTED BY HIS VAST FORTUNE


EVERY LOSS COSTING HIM HIS OWN BLOOD!
WITH NOTHING TO PROTECT HIM!!
HE WAS FIGHTING ALONE AND HELPLESS

WHILE AKAGI..

THERE'S NO WAY HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SURVIVE THAT!
THINKING ON IT NOW, IT WAS SO STUPID!
OO

BET HIS LIFE ON IT....!

THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT... IT PROBABLY...

NO...

TO AKAGI!
JUST CAME NATURALLY...
BY THE THOUGHT, "I WANT TO LIVE"!
TO NOT BE POISONED...
TO NOT BE POISONED BY IT!

ALL HE DOES IS PLAY!
THAT HE DOESN'T SEE GOOD HANDS OR BAD HANDS!
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S THAT KIND OF MAN
ALL HE DOES IS LIVE!!
THAT'S RIGHT!
FOR THIS ONE HAND!
FOR THIS ONE HAND!

SOMETHING'S GONNA HAPPEN, HERE!!

Akagi's Starting Hand

Washizu...

And meanwhile...

A painful opening state.

A painful starting hand...

Akagi's hand...

EVEN WITH A HAND LIKE THIS!

SOMETHING HAS TO HAPPEN!

IF IT'S AKAGI...

It was 5-Shan-Ten... 5 tiles away!

Just getting it to Tenpai would be difficult!

Let alone making it to Haneman...

HAD A GOOD HAND!

Washizu's Starting Hand

TO ALREADY BE IN 1-SHAN-TEN!

The two of their hands were very different!

The difference between he and Akagi was evident!

A good hand indeed... An extremely quick starting hand!

And yet...

Akagi's Hand

Suzuki had a Nan in his hand...

Plus, he had a pair of the round wind, Nan.

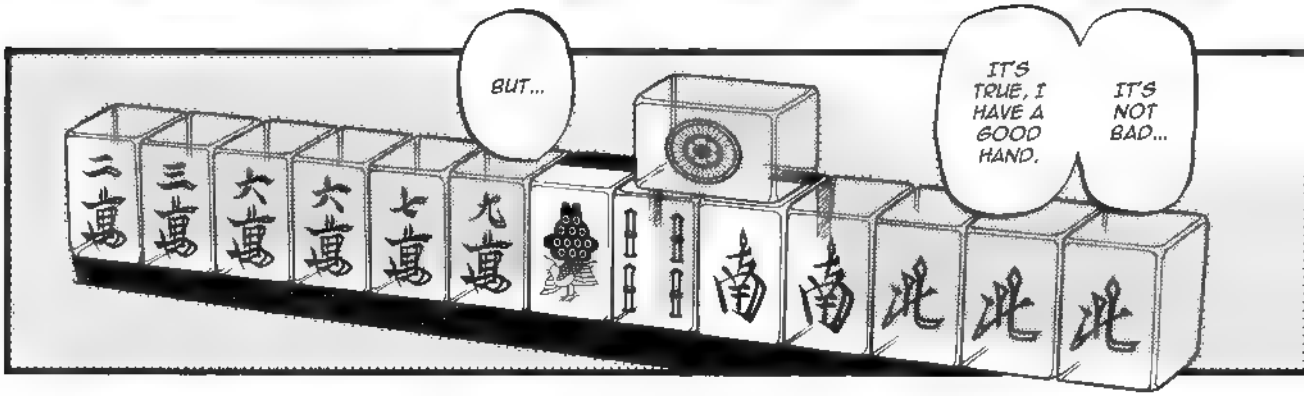
His starting hand was in 2-Shan-Ten, 2 tiles from Tenpai.

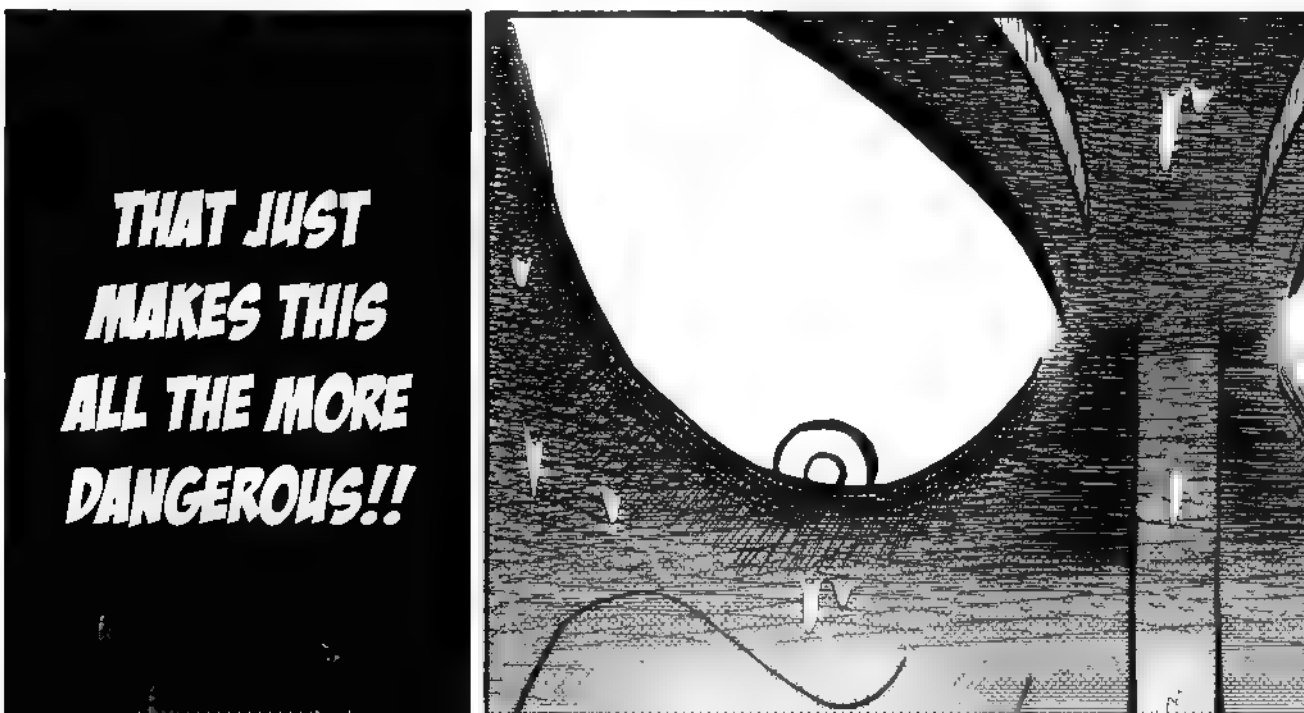
Which is why this starting hand could be said...

He could easily call on it.

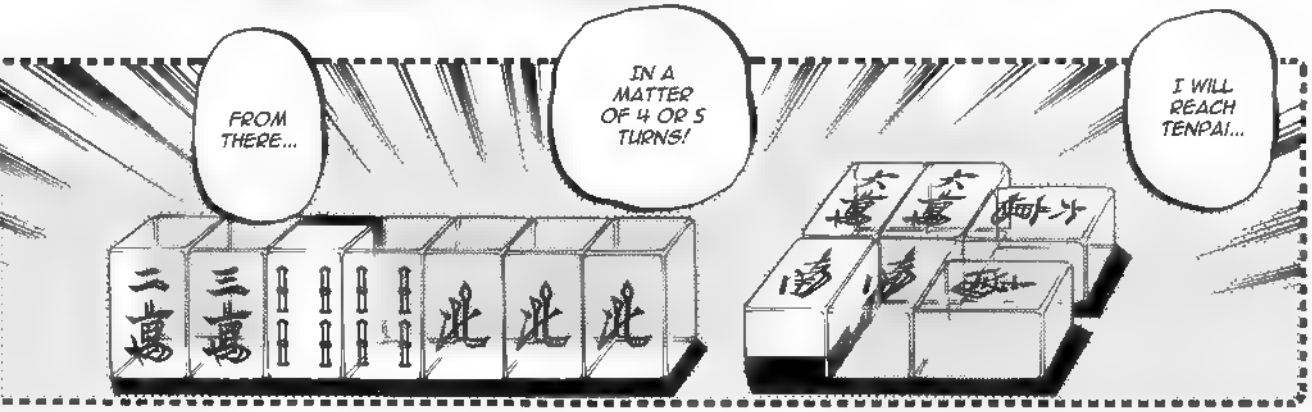
So whenever he pleased...

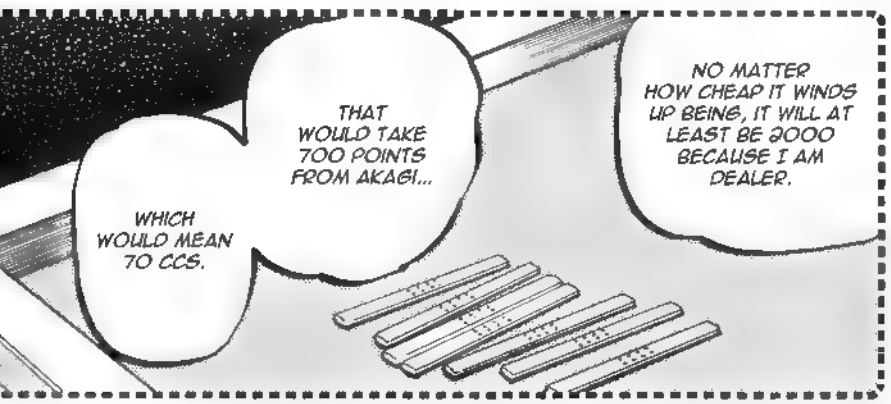
He was clearly displeased!
Washizu's expression would not brighten up!

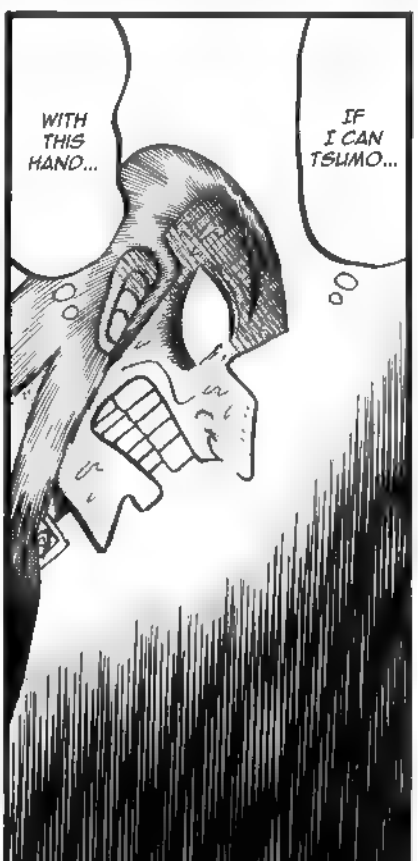

BUT...
IT'S TRUE, I HAVE A GOOD HAND.
IT'S NOT BAD...

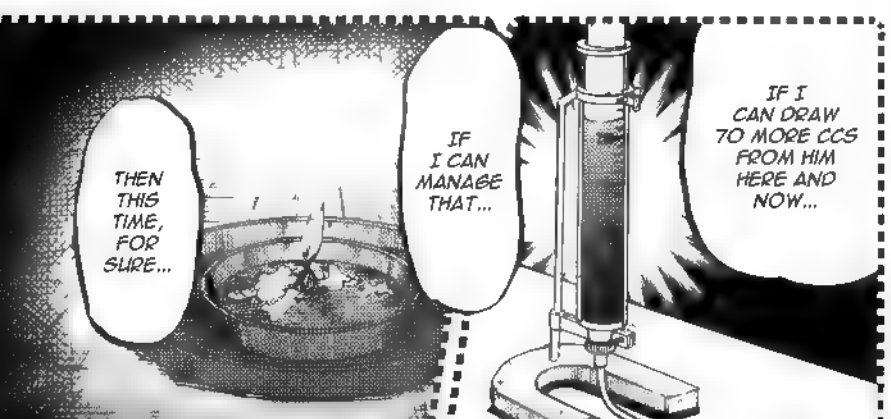

THAT JUST MAKES THIS ALL THE MORE DANGEROUS!!

MOST LIKELY...
I WILL BE IN A QUICK 1-SHAN-TEN.
IF I CARELESSLY CALL ON THE NAN...

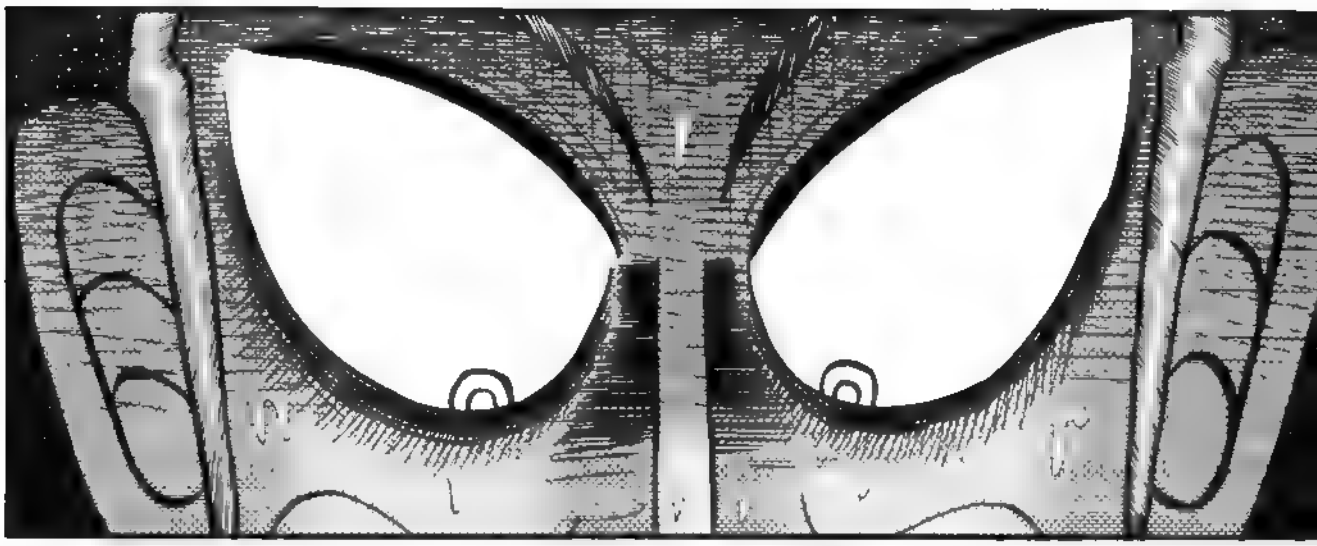

FROM THERE...
IN A MATTER OF 4 OR 5 TURNS!
I WILL REACH TENPAI...

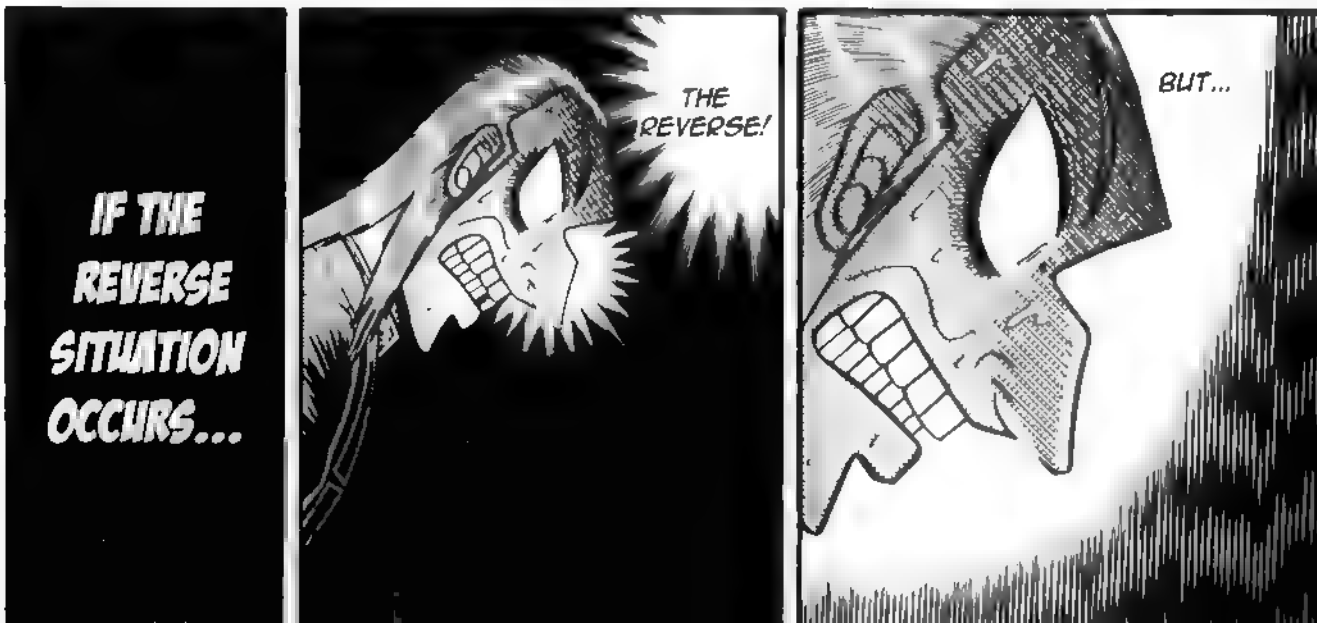

WHICH WOULD MEAN 70 CCS.
THAT WOULD TAKE 700 POINTS FROM AKAGI...
NO MATTER HOW CHEAP IT WINDS UP BEING, IT WILL AT LEAST BE 2000 BECAUSE I AM DEALER.

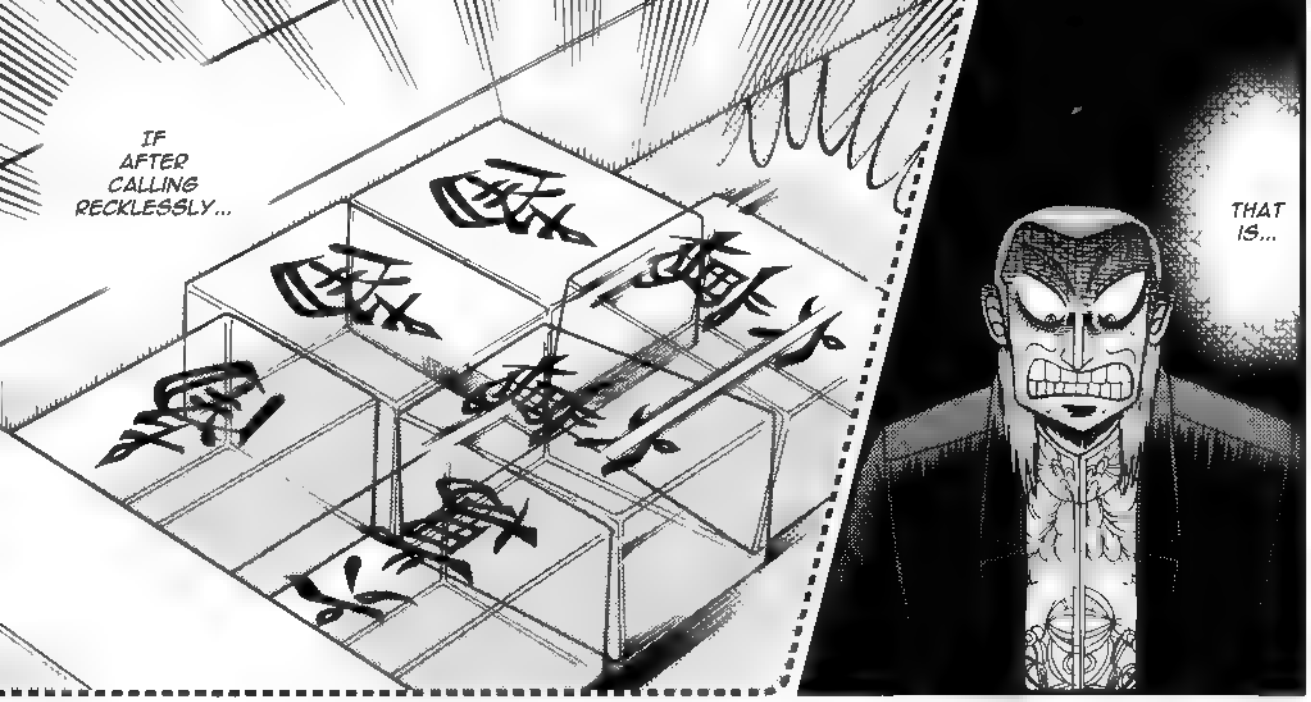

WITH THIS HAND...
IF I CAN TSUMO...

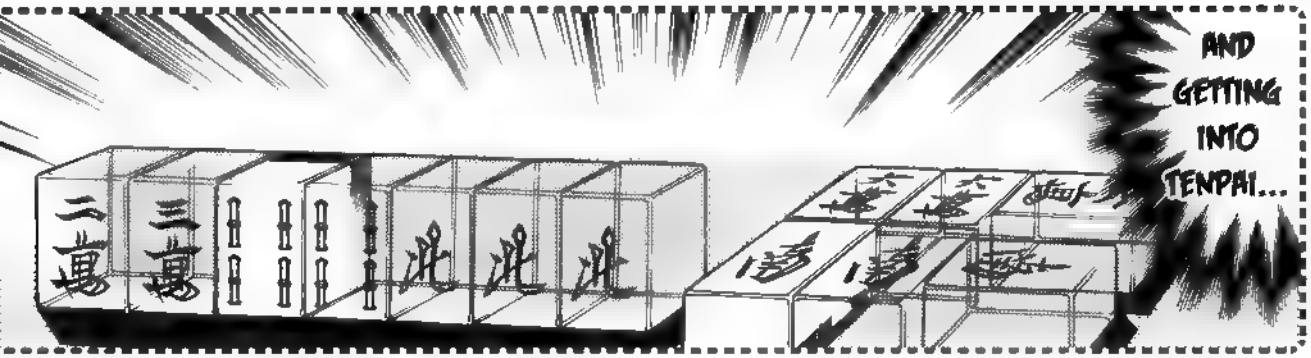

THEN THIS TIME, FOR SURE...
IF I CAN MANAGE THAT...
IF I CAN DRAW 70 MORE CCS FROM HIM HERE AND NOW...

I'D BE ABLE TO SNUFF OUT...
THE LAST FLAME OF AKAGI'S LIFE!



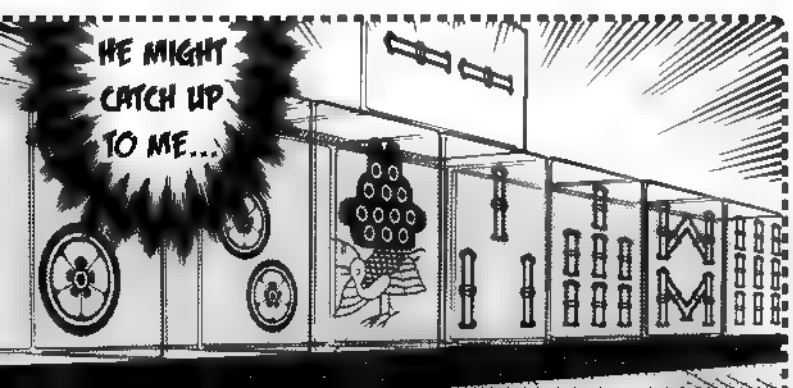

IF THE REVERSE SITUATION OCCURS...
THE REVERSE!
BUT...


IF AFTER CALLING RECKLESSLY...
THAT IS...

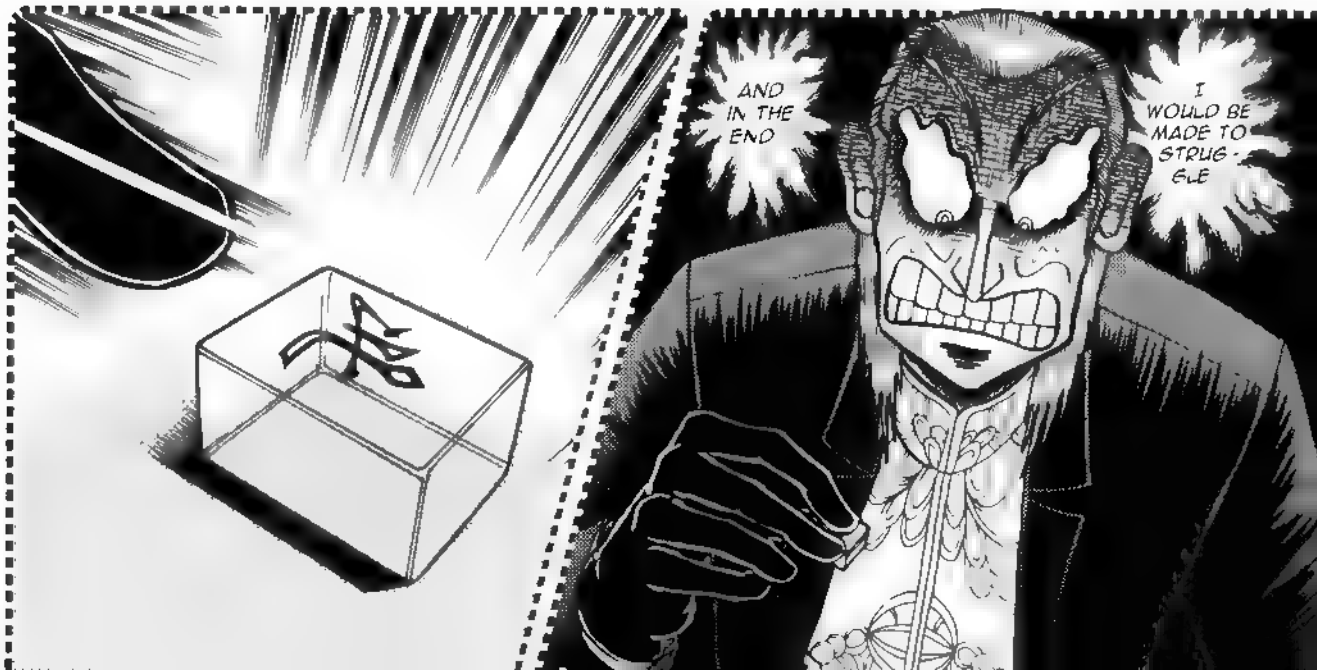

AND GETTING INTO TENPAI...

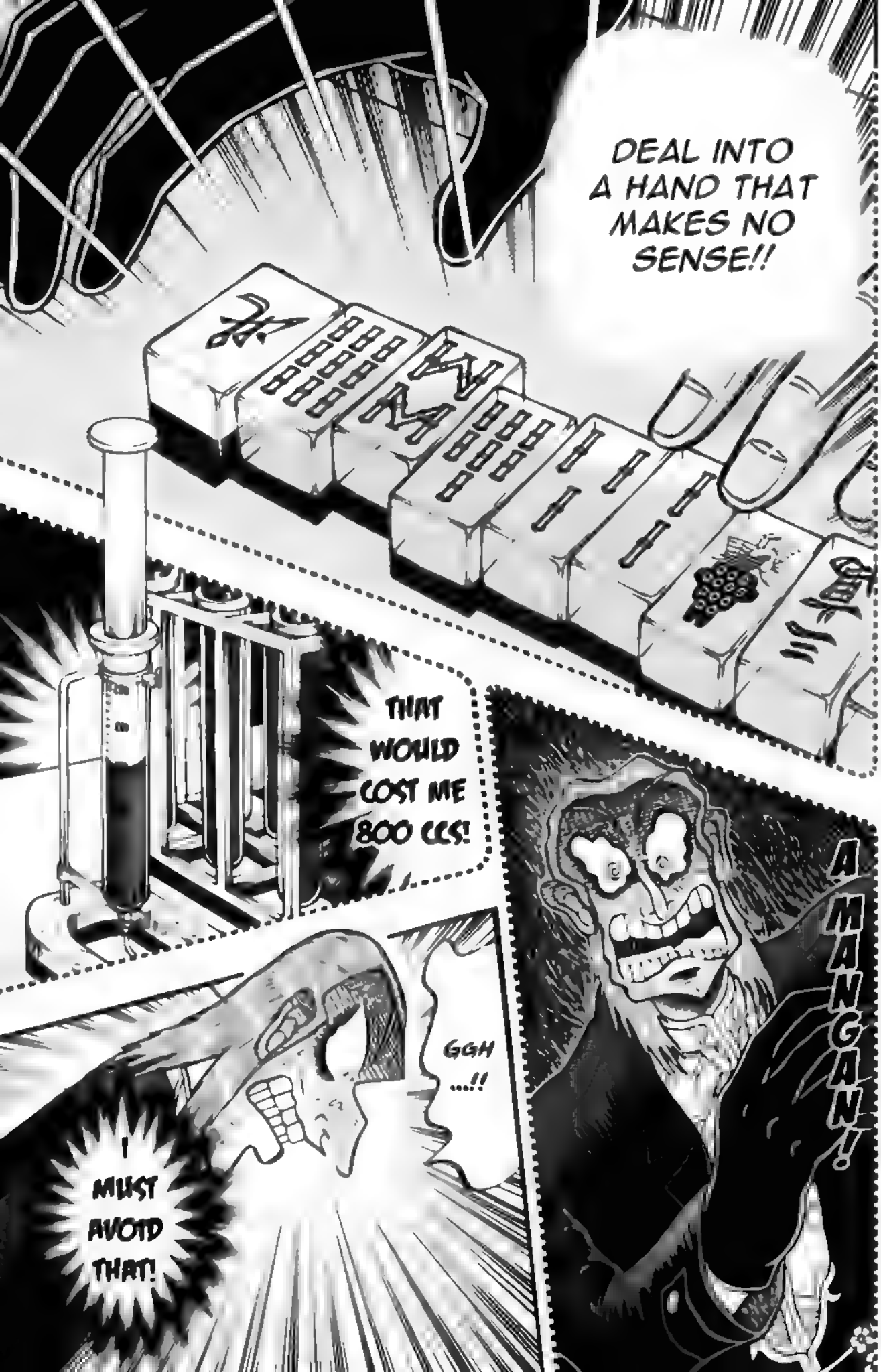
GIVEN THAT SPAN OF TIME...
AND OF COURSE, WITHOUT AKAGI DEALING IN ..

WITHOUT GETTING A TSUMO OR HAVING SUZUKI DEAL IN...
I GET HELD UP...

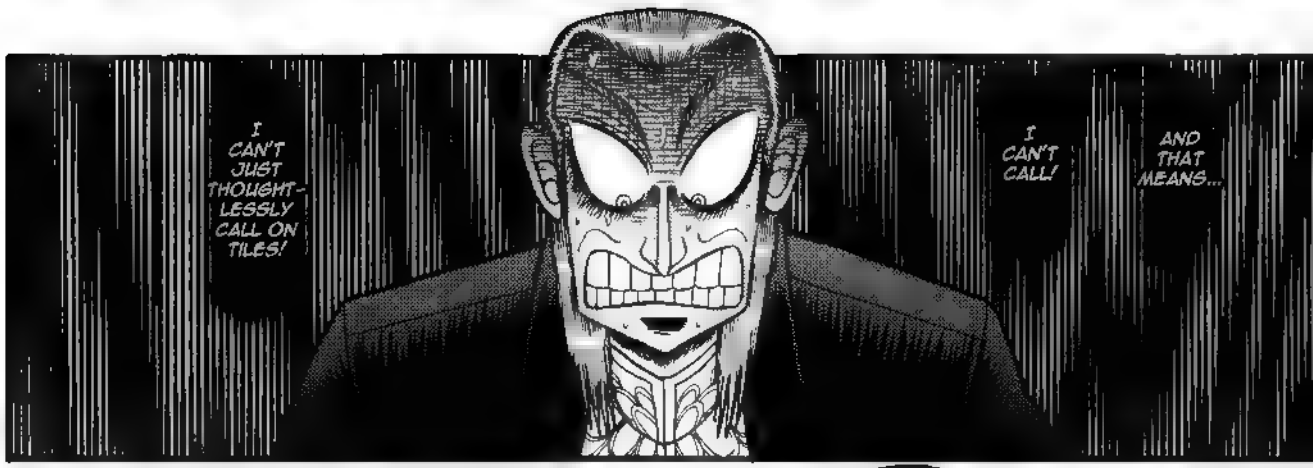

HE MIGHT CATCH UP TO ME...

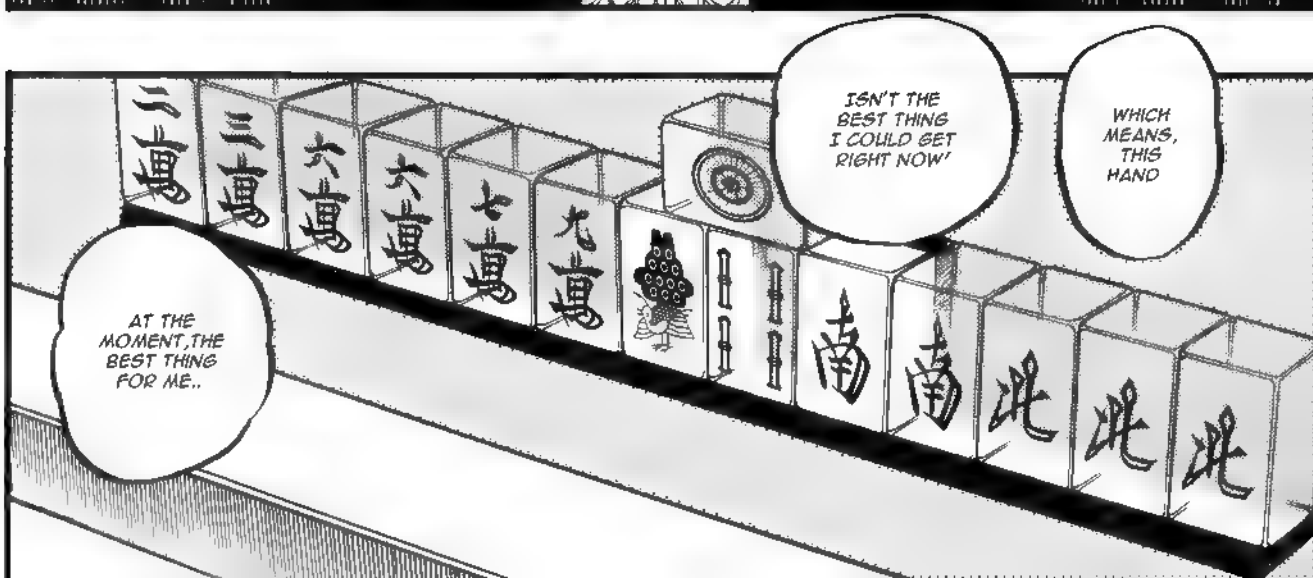
AND THEN RIICHI!
AND WITH MY HAND CUT DOWN TO SO FEW TILES...
二萬
三萬

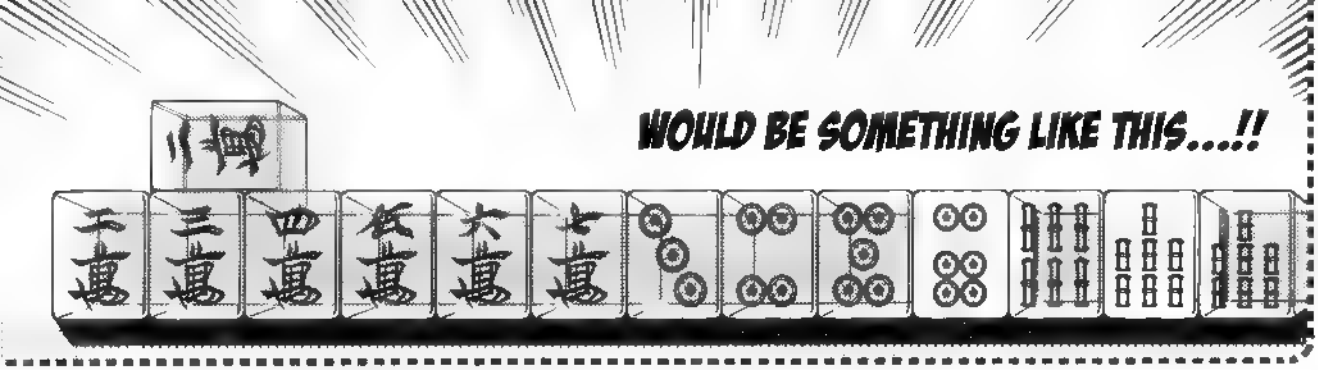

AND IN THE END
I WOULD BE MADE TO STRUG-GLE

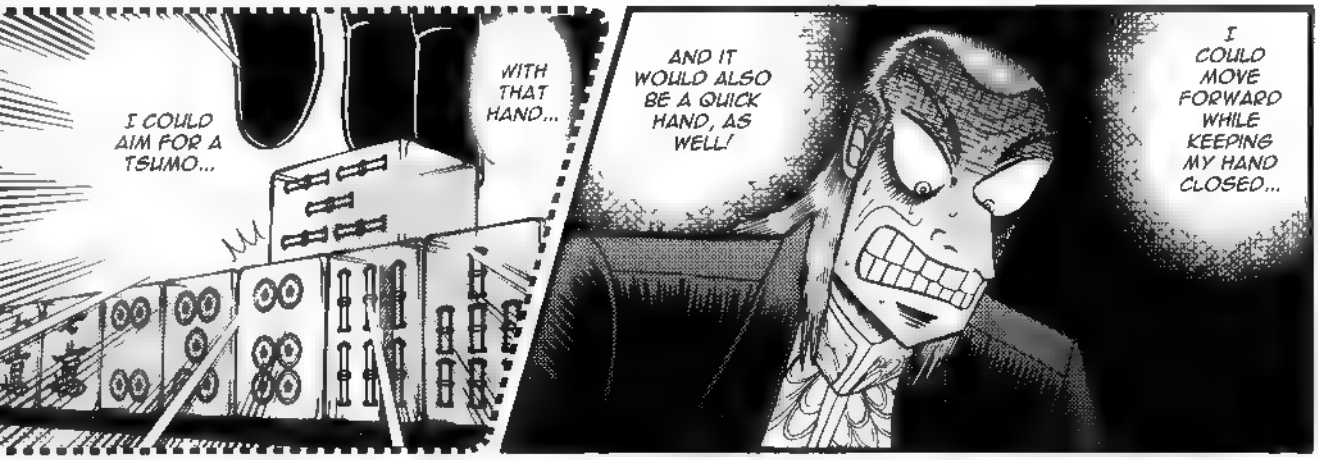

DEAL INTO A HAND THAT MAKES NO SENSE!!
THAT WOULD COST ME 800 CCS!
A MANGAN!
GGH ....!!
I MUST AVOID THAT!

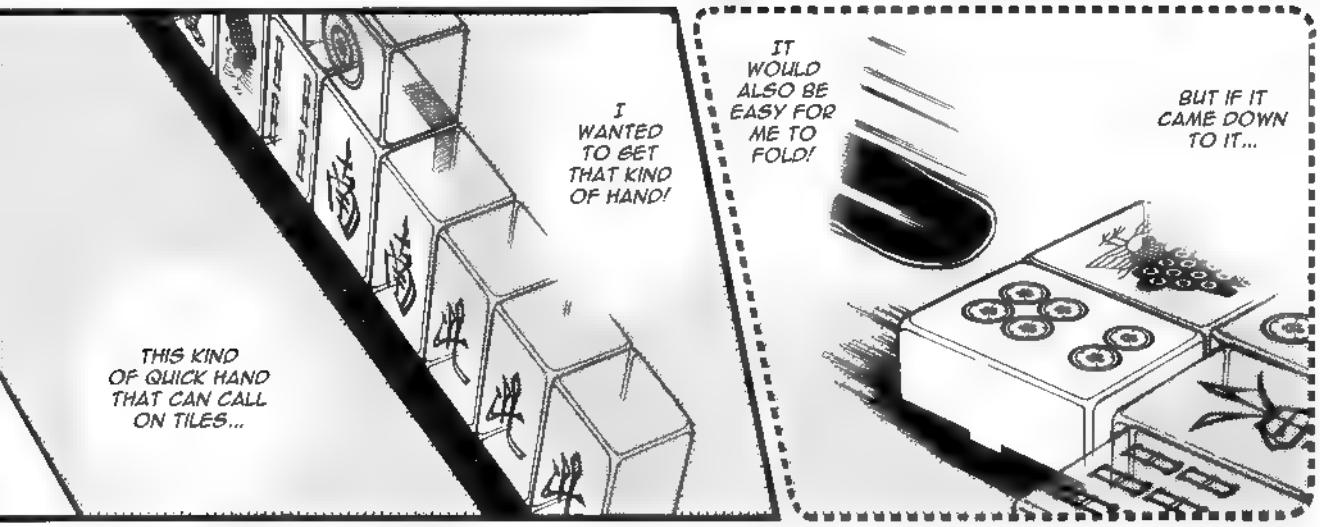
NO MATTER WHAT, I MUST AVOID THAT MORE THAN ANYTHING!


I CAN'T JUST THOUGHT-LESSLY CALL ON TILES!
I CAN'T CALL!
AND THAT MEANS...


AT THE MOMENT, THE BEST THING FOR ME..
ISN'T THE BEST THING I COULD GET RIGHT NOW'
WHICH MEANS, THIS HAND

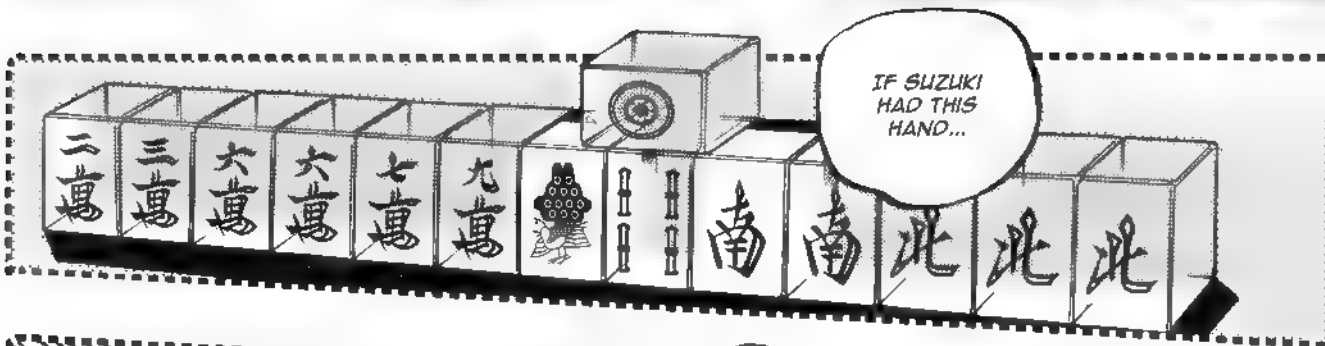

WOULD BE SOMETHING LIKE THIS...!!

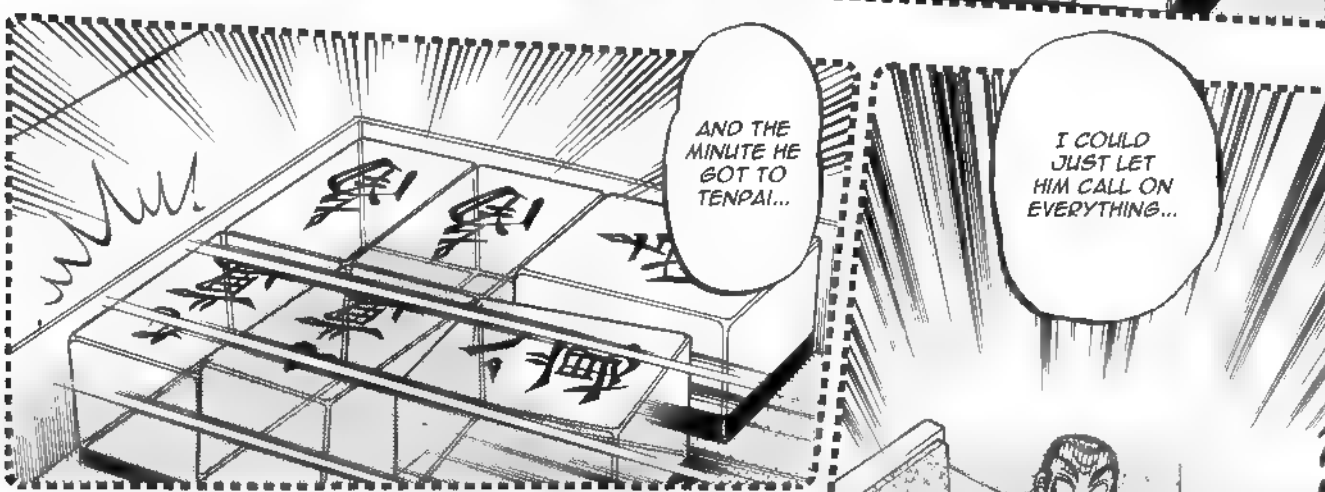

I COULD AIM FOR A TSUMO...
WITH THAT HAND...
AND IT WOULD ALSO BE A QUICK HAND, AS WELL!
I COULD MOVE FORWARD WHILE KEEPING MY HAND CLOSED...


THIS KIND OF QUICK HAND THAT CAN CALL ON TILES...
I WANTED TO GET THAT KIND OF HAND!
IT WOULD ALSO BE EASY FOR ME TO FOLD!
BUT IF IT CAME DOWN TO IT...

BUT FOR SUZUKI!
I DION'T WANT FOR ME...

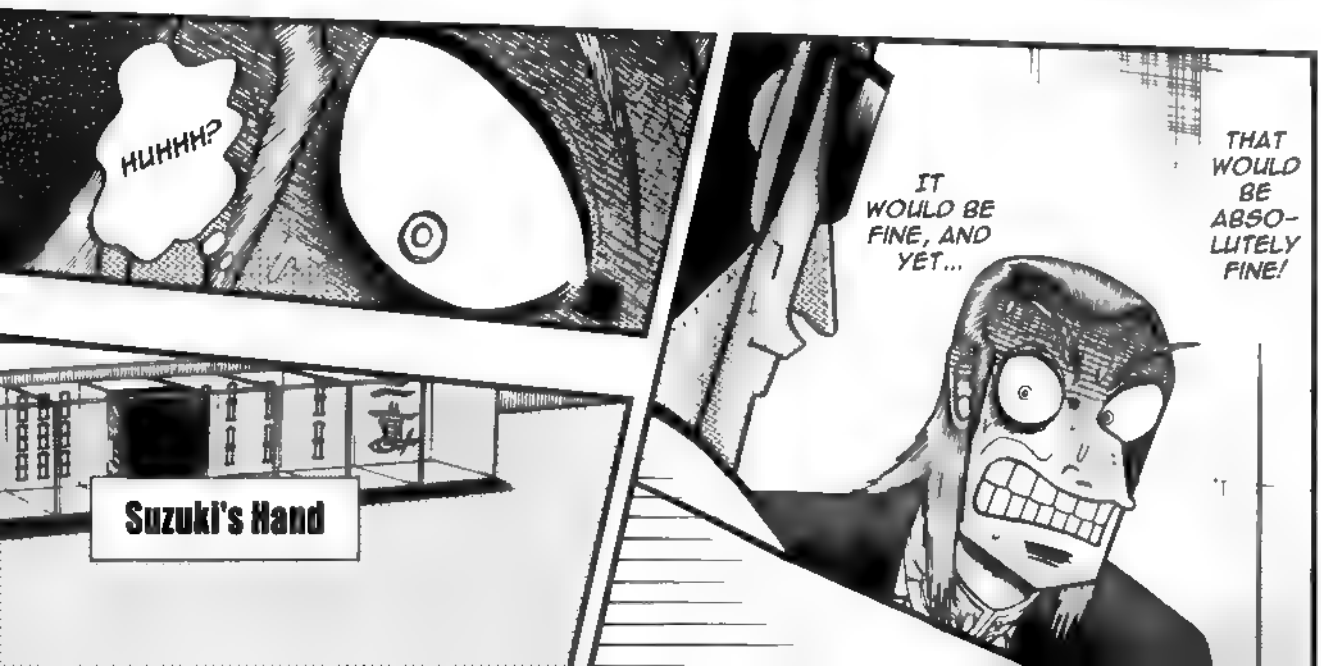
IT WOULD BE FINE IF SUZUKI GOT IT!


IF SUZUKI HAD THIS HAND...


AND THE MINUTE HE GOT TO TENPAI...
I COULD JUST LET HIM CALL ON EVERYTHING...

I COULD IMMEDI-ATELY DEAL IN!
.....

THAT WOULD END IT!
AND SUZUKI WOULD OF COURSE RON!
WHERE IF AKAGI GETS A TSUMO I PAY DOUBLE!
IT WOULD END MY DANGEROUS DEALER TURN...


HUHHH?
Suzuki's Hand
IT WOULD BE FINE, AND YET...
THAT WOULD BE ABSO-LUTELY FINE!

WHAT'S WITH THAT REPULSIVE HAND?!

Suzuki's Hand

IN THE END...

USELESS! USELESS!! USE-LESS!!

GARBAGE! GARBAGE!! GAR-BAGE!!

THERE'S A BRIGHT SIDE TO THIS!

EVEN WITH THAT SAID...

AND THAT IS...

BUT...

AND THAT MUCH IS BAD LUCK...

SUZUKI WON'T BE PROVIDING ME ANY COVER...

THIS MAN...

USELESS GARBAGE!!

NEVER BRINGS ME ANY GOOD NEWS!!

THAT AKAGI'S HAND IS ALSO USELESS!!

Akagi's Hand

I MUSTN'T OVERDO IT!

THAT MUCH IS GOOD NEWS!

THAT'S ONLY NATURAL, OF COURSE!

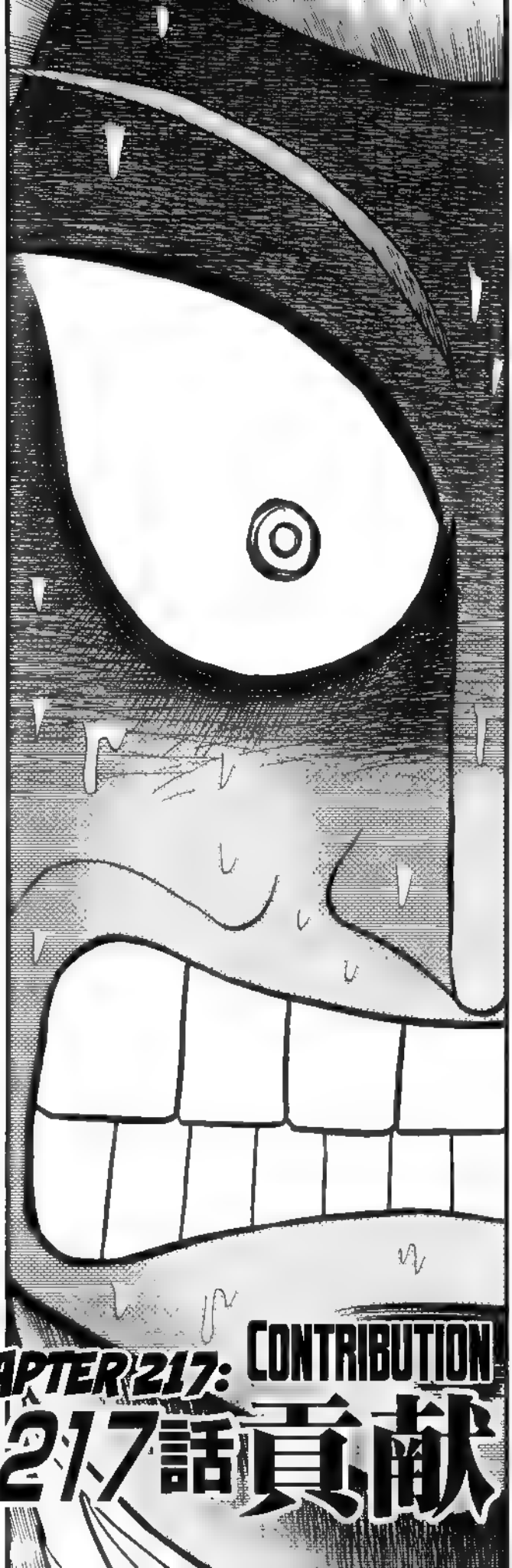
WELL...

THE GODS HAVE CHOSEN ME, THIS ROUND!

MY HAND IS MUCH FASTER!

JUST TSUMO WITHOUT REACHING TOO FAR...
AND KILL HIM!
THAT IS THE IDEAL!
I'M BEGGING YOU, AKAGI...!
DON'T PULL ANYTHING!
JUST KEEP THINGS AS THEY ARE...

AND PLEASE DIE... AKAGI...!!



CHAPTER 217: CONTRIBUTION
第217話 貢献

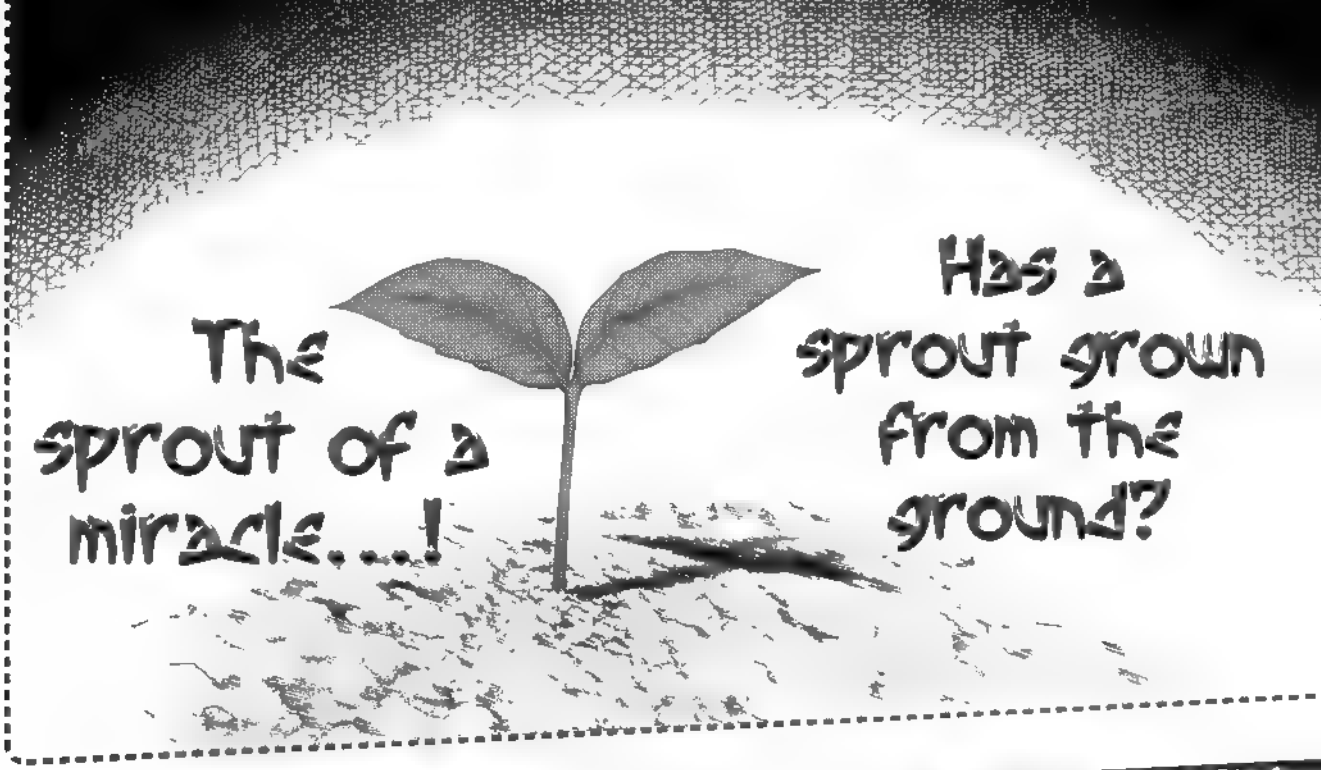
JUST LIKE THAT!!
It is the South 3rd Round of the final, 6th Session.
Washizu Mahjong.

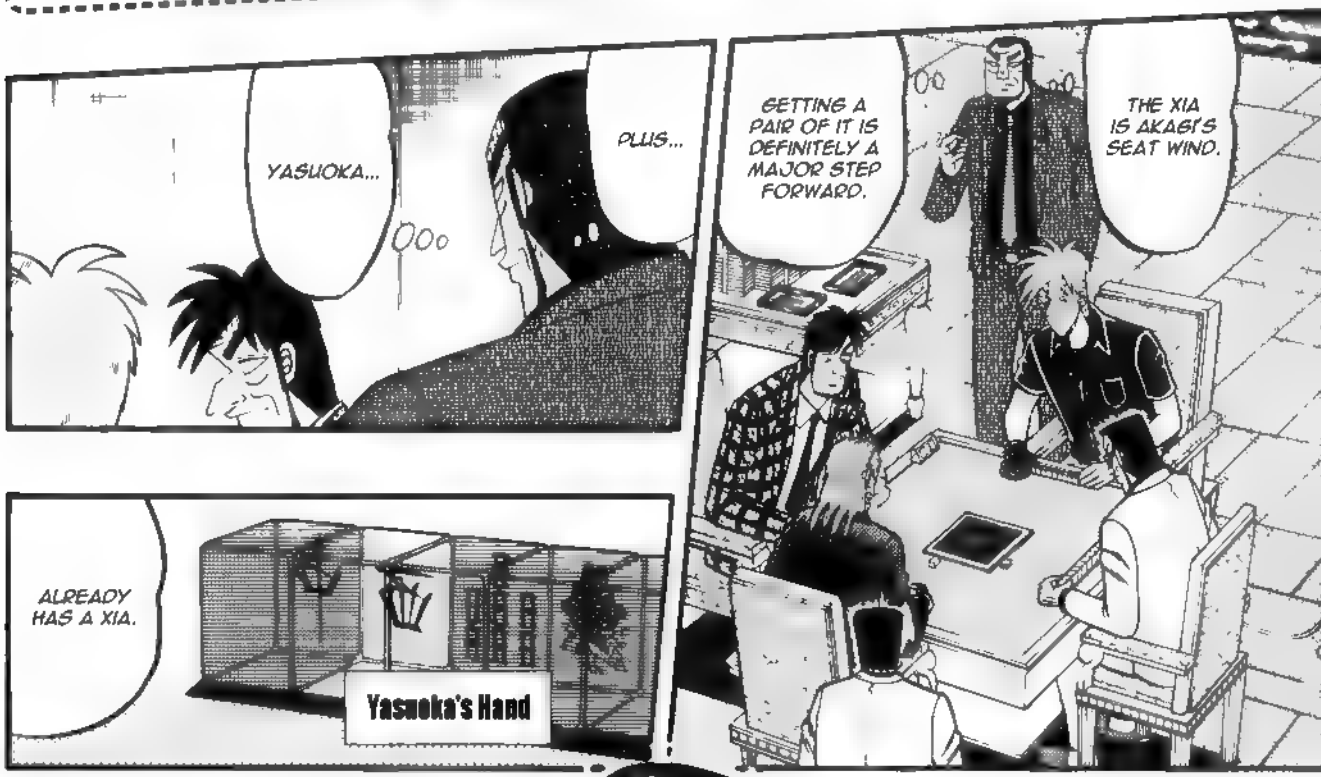
The round begins!
.....

IT'S ONLY A TINY THING, BUT...

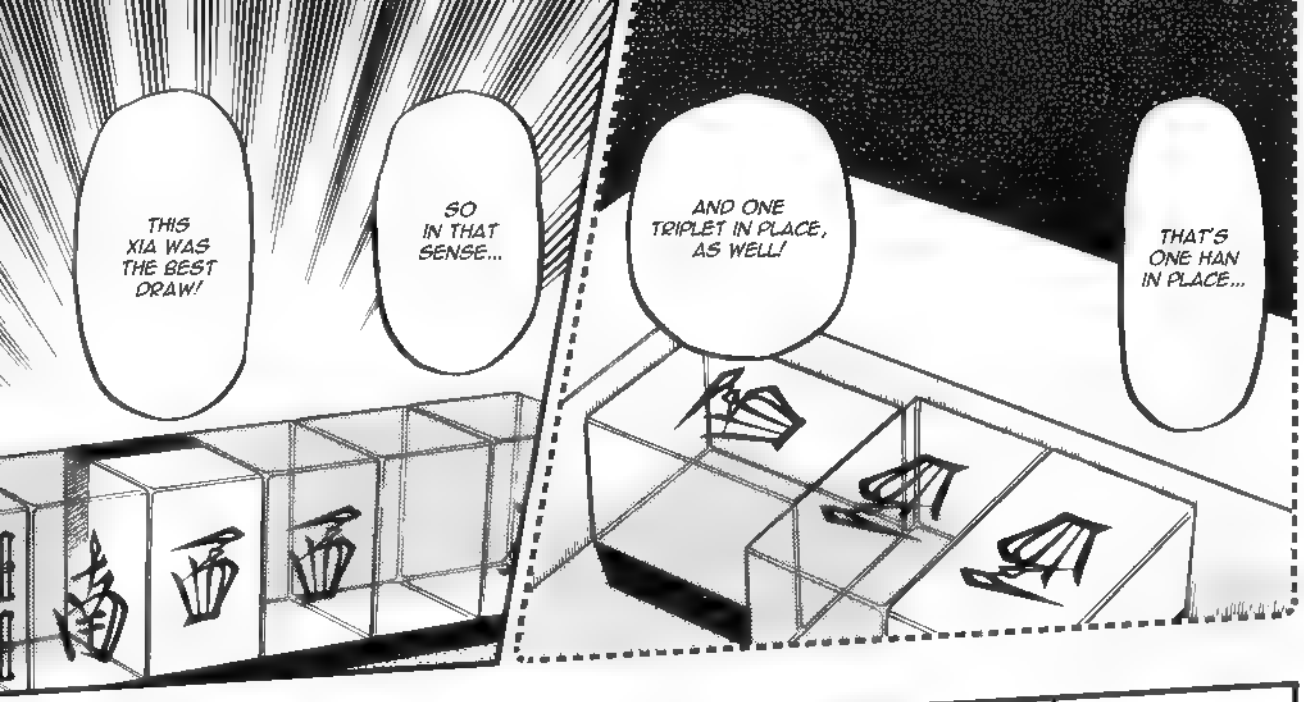
GOT IT!

Akagi's first draw is Xia

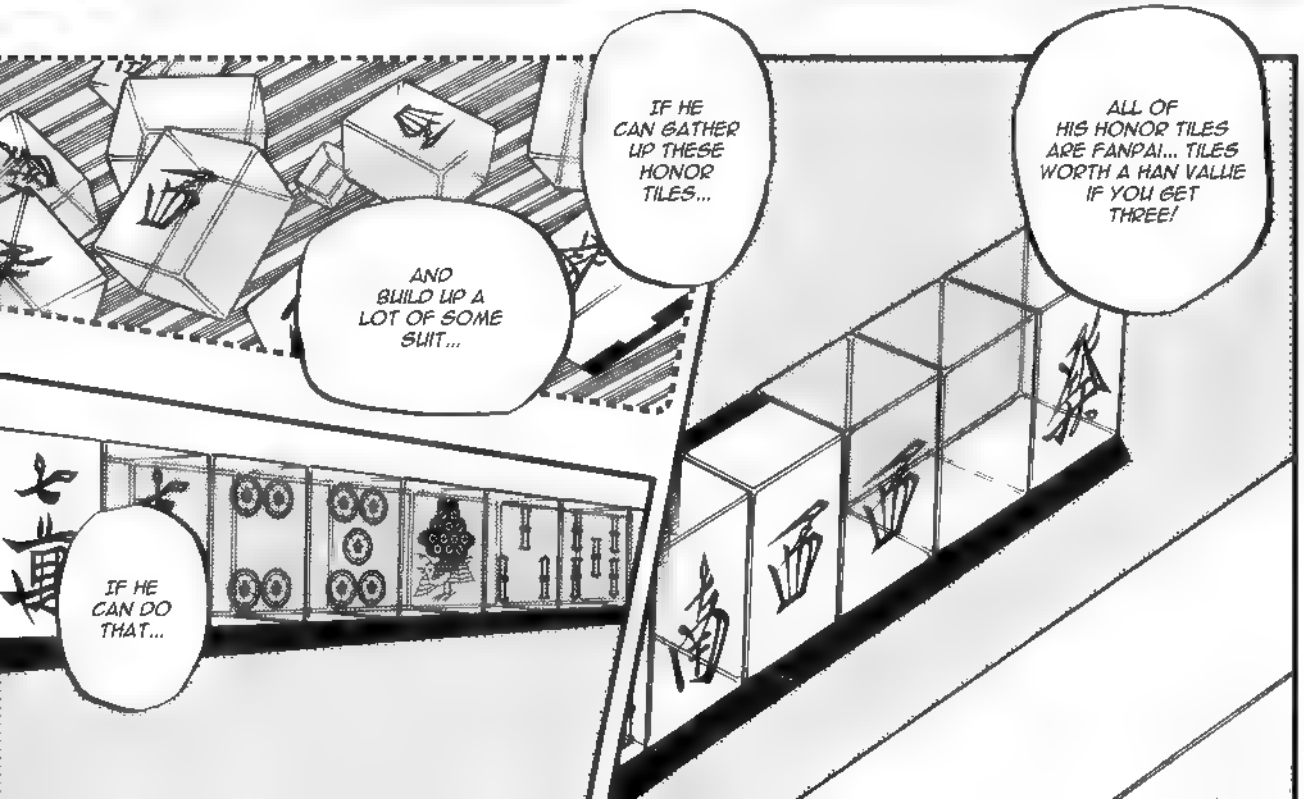

The sprout of a miracle...!
Has a sprout grown from the ground?

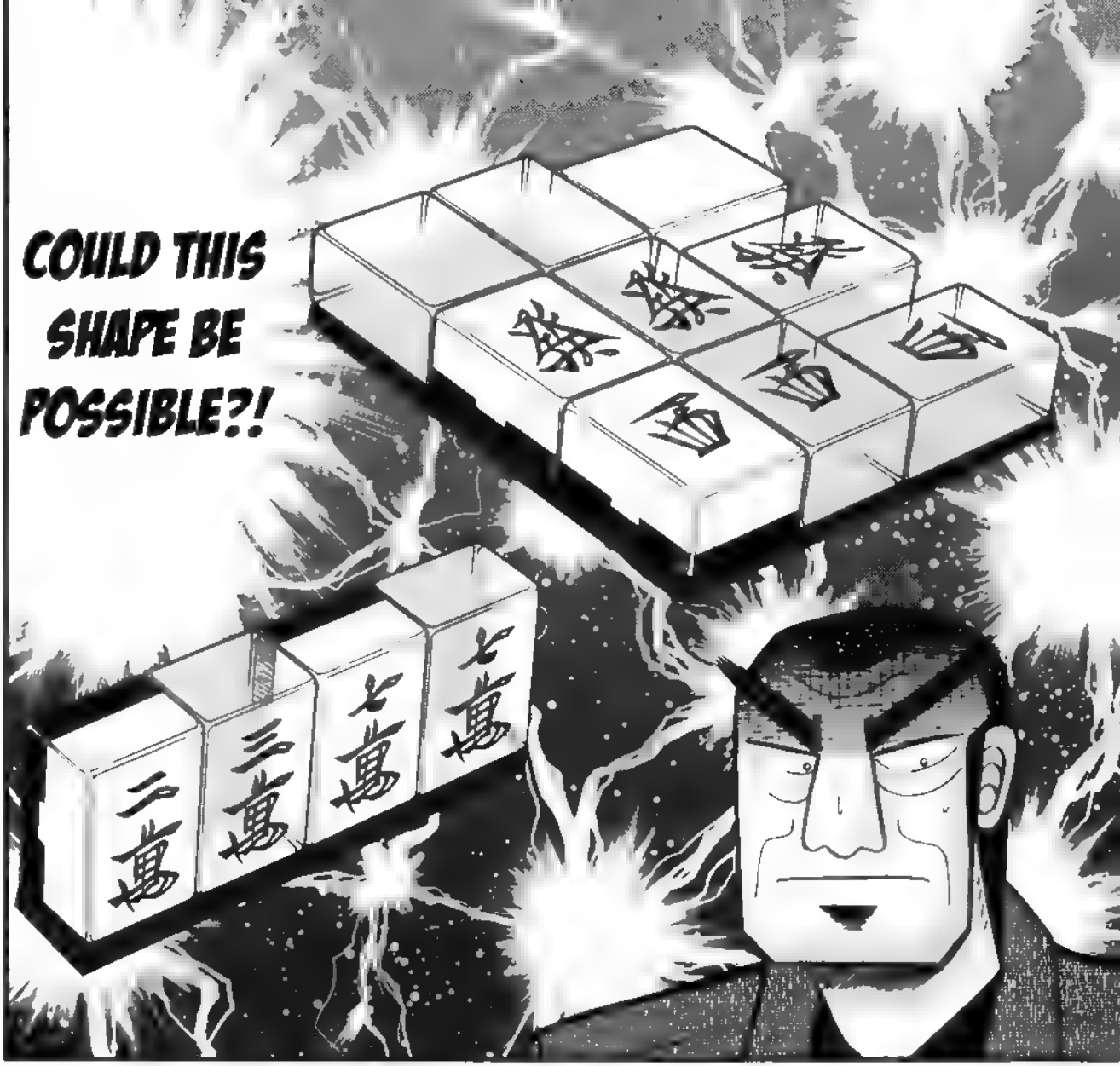

YASUOKA...
PLUS...
GETTING A PAIR OF IT IS DEFINITELY A MAJOR STEP FORWARD.
THE XIA IS AKAGI'S SEAT WIND.
ALREADY HAS A XIA.
Yasuoka's Hand

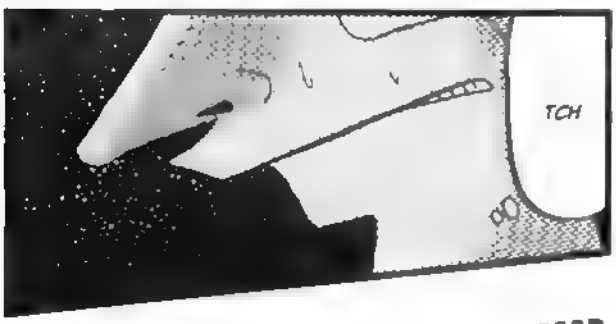
IT WILL BE EASY TO CALL ON IT!


THIS XIA WAS THE BEST DRAW!
SO IN THAT SENSE...
AND ONE TRIPLET IN PLACE, AS WELL!
THAT'S ONE HAN IN PLACE...

LOOKING CLOSER AT AKAGI'S HAND...
IT'S NOT JUST THE XIA!
...AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT...


IF HE CAN DO THAT...
AND BUILD UP A LOT OF SOME SUIT...
IF HE CAN GATHER UP THESE HONOR TILES...
ALL OF HIS HONOR TILES ARE FANPAI... TILES WORTH A HAN VALUE IF YOU GET THREE!


COULD THIS SHAPE BE POSSIBLE?!


TCH

SO IN THE END...
EVEN WITH ALL THAT THOUGH, IT'D BE ONE HAN SHORT OF HANEMAN.

WITH 7 BIG MOVES THIS HAND CAN REACH MANGAN!
HON ITSU, HAKU, HATSU, XIA.

THAT'S THE HON ITSU WE WANT!
WE NEED A PINZU HON ITSU TO GET THE DORA WORKED IN...
Ohgi wishes hard...
PINZU, HON ITSU!
PINZU!
PINZU...
Akagi starts the South 3rd Round with a good draw, but...
This dream was brought on by this draw of Xia.
He prays!
Even with that said, in reality...

He is still in this situation!!

Akagi's Hand

Land that still needs much cultivation!

Right now, it is still a wasteland!

And meanwhile...

But it is still fertile, nevertheless!

.....

Comparing it to the hand Ohgi imagined...

It is like heaven and earth!

WA-
SHIZU

二萬 三萬 六萬 六萬 七萬 九萬

南 南 北 北 北

Washizu's Hand

That ad-
vance it!

With draws...

On the 4th turn...

Wa-
shizu's hand...

Is a fa-
vorable starting hand...

Washizu's Hand

SUZUKI DOESN'T HAVE 1- OR 4-MAN...

Suzuki's Hand

He may get his hand there!

KGH!

THERE'S NO WAY FOR HIM TO DEAL IN, IMMEDIATELY!

WHICH MEANS...

No...

AH...!

He reaches 1-shan-ten with a closed hand! 1 tile from Tenpai!

If Washi-zu wants to...

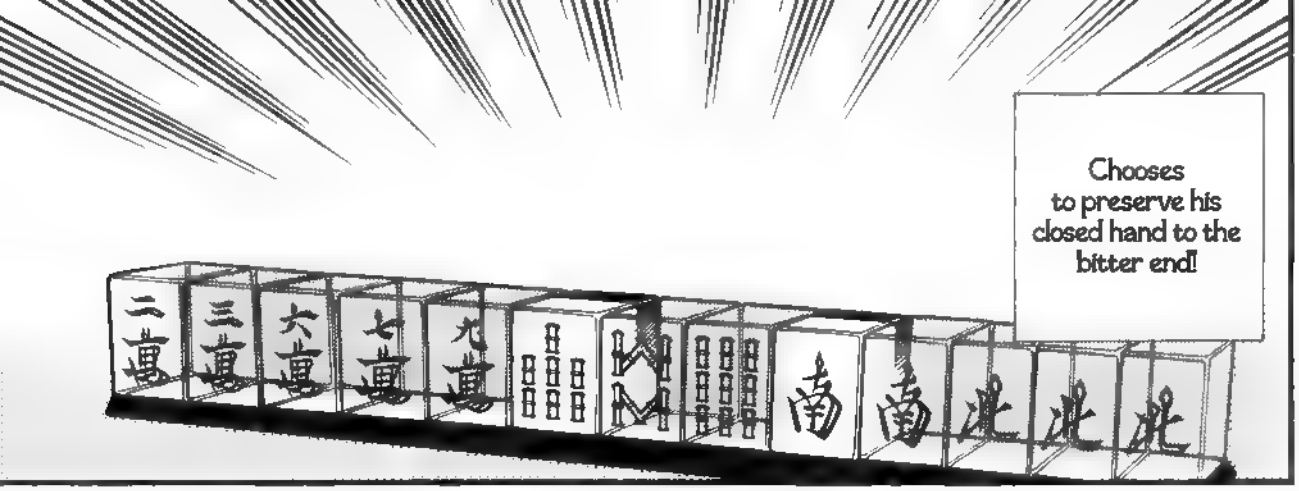
On 1- and 4-man!

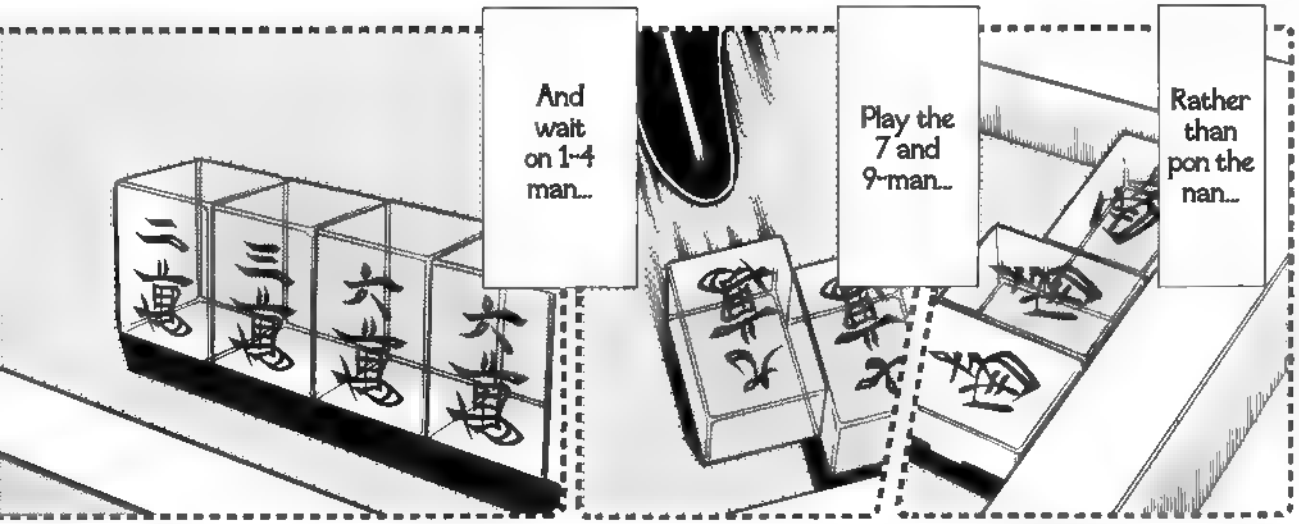
He will immedi-ately reach tenpai...

If he calls on Suzuki's nan...

IT'S NOT FEASIBLE FOR ME TO CALL FOR TENPAI!
NO, NO, NO! I MUSTN'T!
Washizu's Hand

THAT WOULD.
THAT I COULD BE CHASED DOWN AND CORNERED!
IF I LIMIT DOWN MY HAND...
I CAN'T TAKE ON ANY RISK...
Washi-zu...
HOLD ME BACK TOO MUCH!!
THEN IT MIGHT BE POS-SIBLE...


Chooses to preserve his closed hand to the bitter end!


And wait on 1-4 man...
Play the 7 and 9-man...
Rather than pon the nan...

And this decision...
And keeps the 9-man to allow for Chanta.
He plays 6-man...

Very easily...
On the next turn...

PAYS OFF!!

Washizu's Hand

And what's more...

He reaches Tenpai without making any calls!

GGH!

GAUGH!

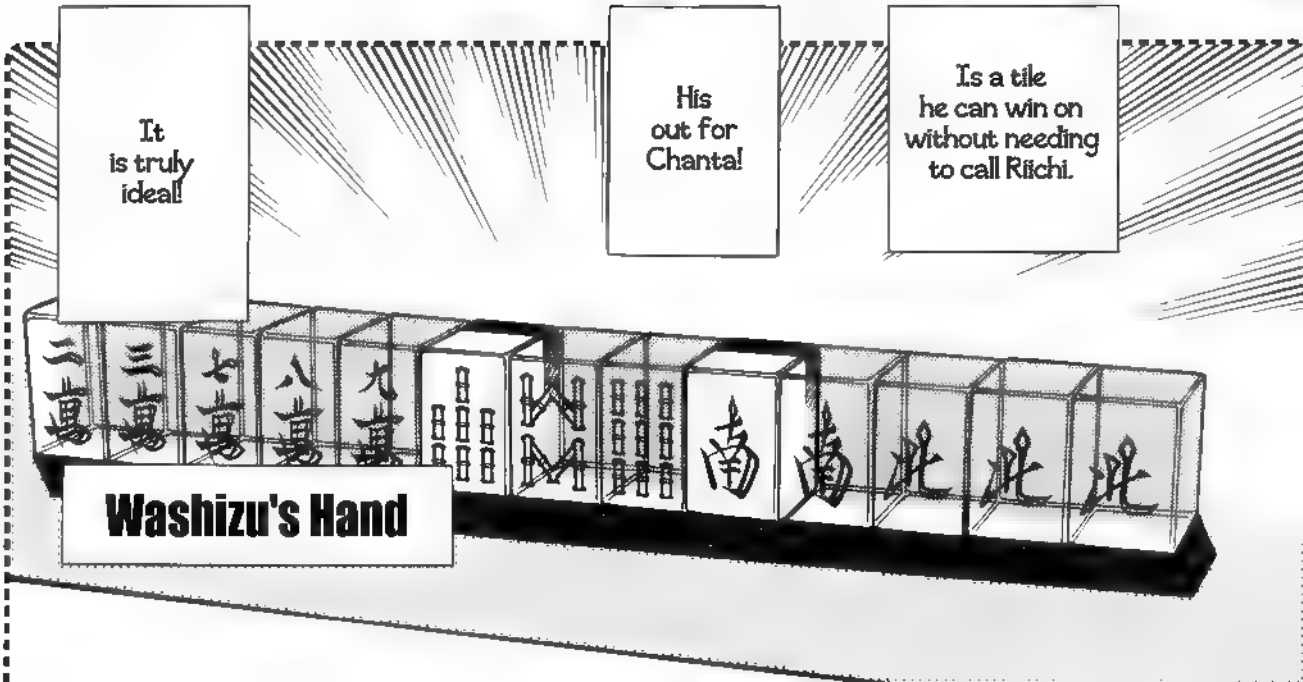
GAUGH!

AH...!

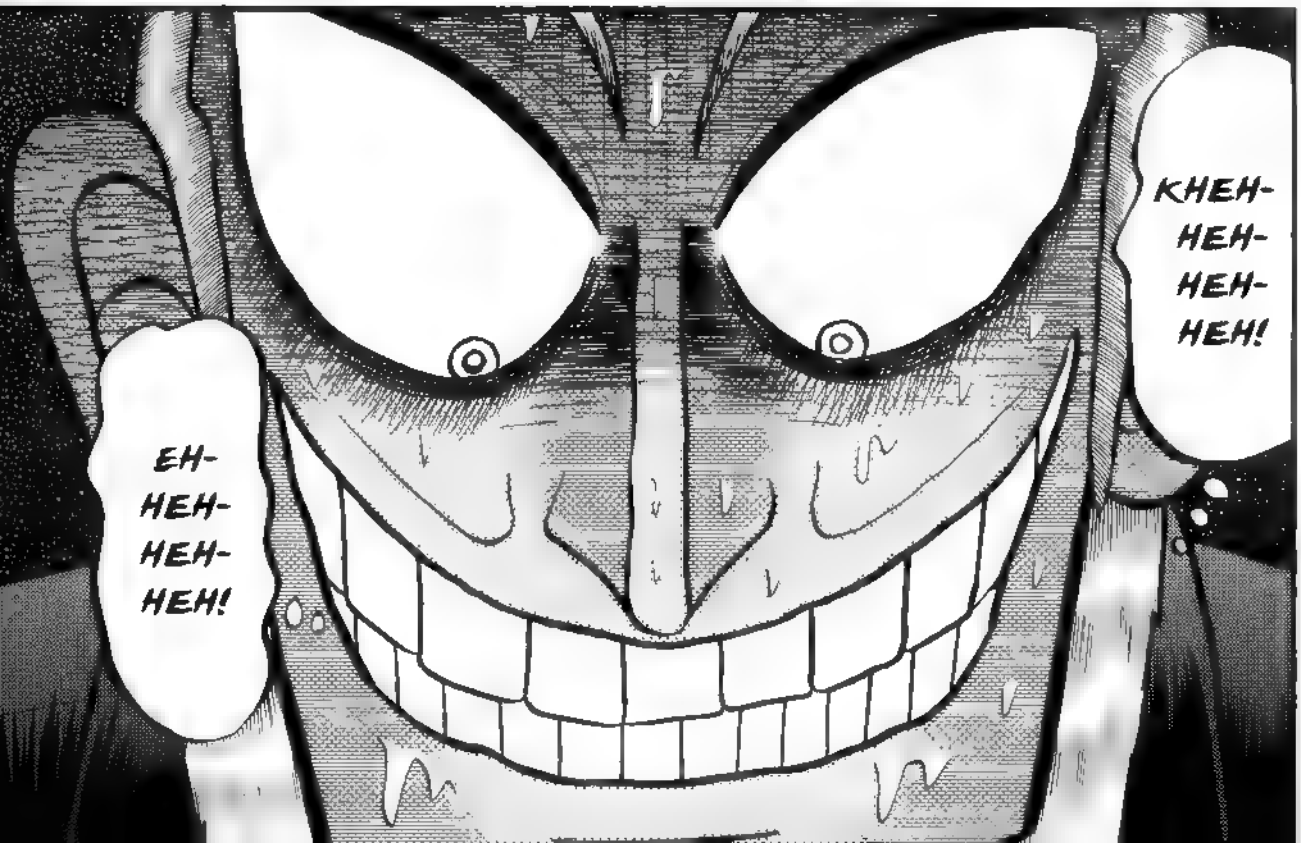
He draws the 8-man for Tenpai!

Washizu's winning tile, the transparent 1-man!
Suzuki also drew in...
On the same turn Washizu dealt the 6-man...

The 4-man would be no good, but the 1-man...
OH-HOO OOH HH!


It is truly ideal!
His out for Chanta!
Is a tile he can win on without needing to call Riichi.
Washizu's Hand

On the 5th turn...!!
An ideal devel-opment...


KHEH-HEH-HEH-HEH!
EH-HEH-HEH-HEH!

THOUGH...

A VERY NICE DRAW!

KHEH-HEH-HEH!

IT WAS PROBABLY MY DIVINE STRENGTH THAT DREW IT IN!

EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER!

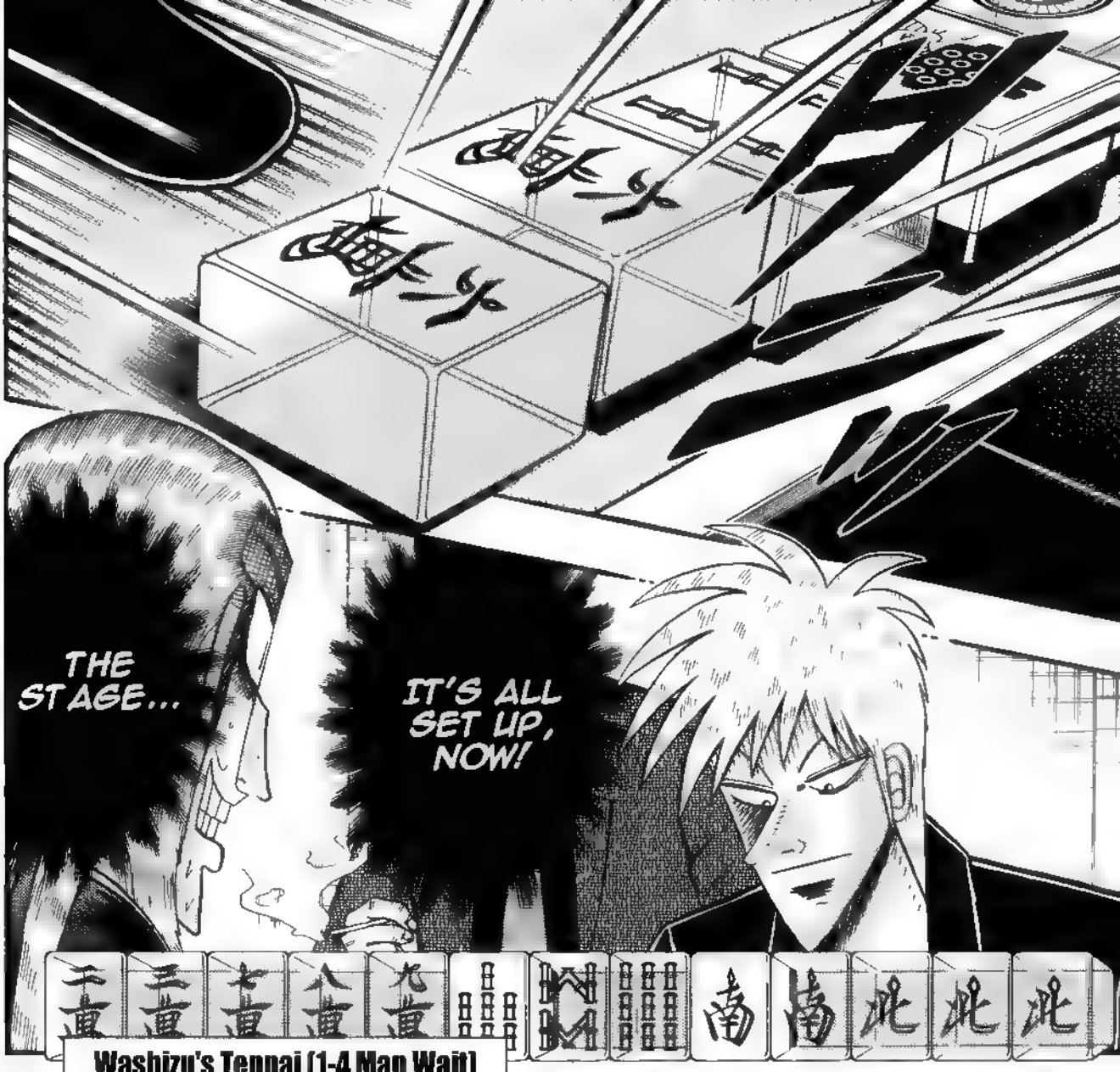
二萬 三萬 六萬 七萬

OKAY!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AGES, SUZUKI CONTRIBUTED TO MY CAUSE!

HE CONTRIBUTED!

Suzuki's Hand



Washizu's Tenpai (1-4 Man Wait)

THE THEATER!
THE STAGE!
KHEH HEH HEH
THE SCENE FOR YOUR DE-FEAT!
NOWWW!

HOW WILL YOU BE FINISHED OFF?

HOW WILL YOU DIE?

I'M IN TENPAI, RIGHT NOW!

ARE NOW ALL LINED UP IN A ROW!

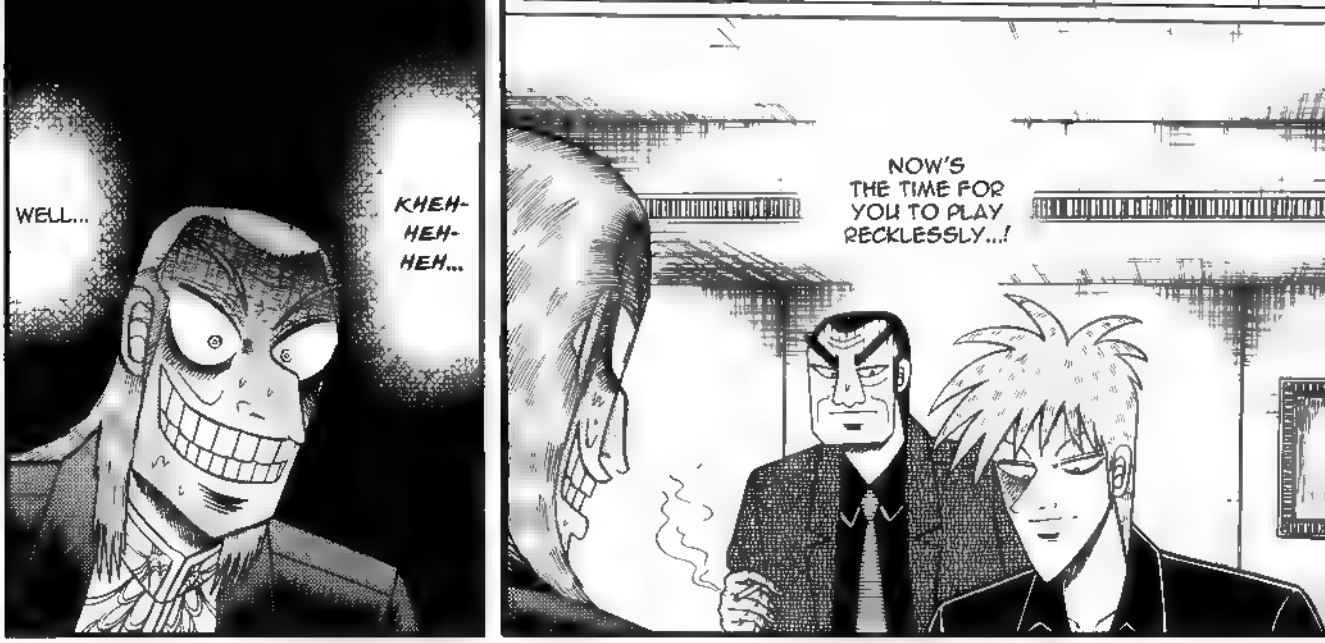
THE ARRANGE-MENTS FOR ME TO KILL YOU...

AKAGI...?!

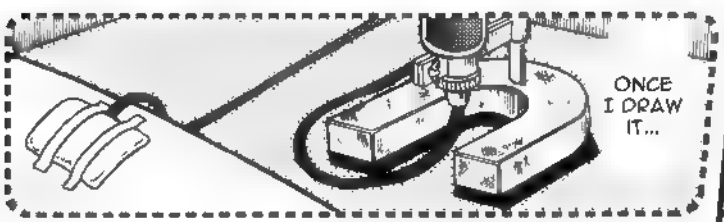
WHAT WILL BE THE CONCLUSION...

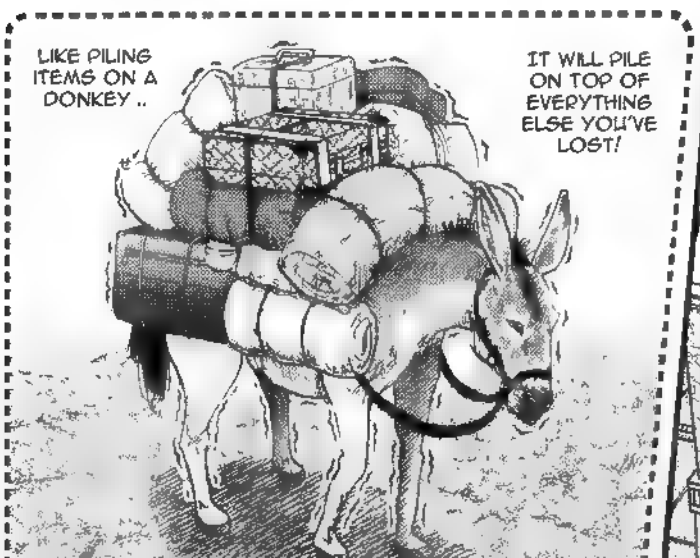
Chapter 218: TWO TILES

第218話 二枚


WELL...
KHEH-HEH-HEH...
NOW'S THE TIME FOR YOU TO PLAY RECKLESSLY...!

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE NOT THAT KIND OF MAN...!

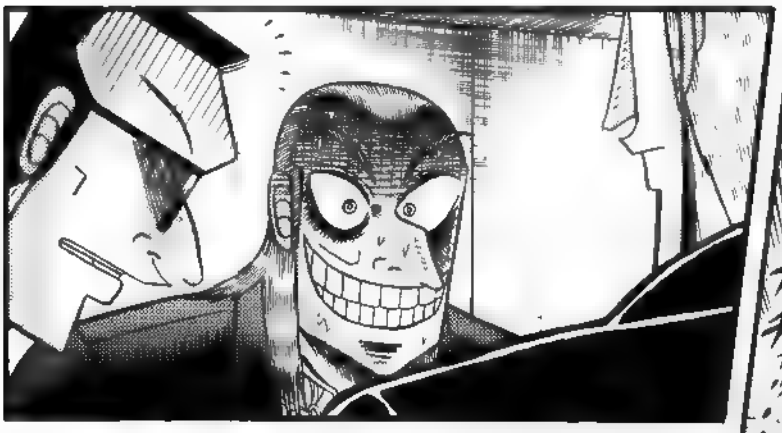

ONCE I DRAW IT...

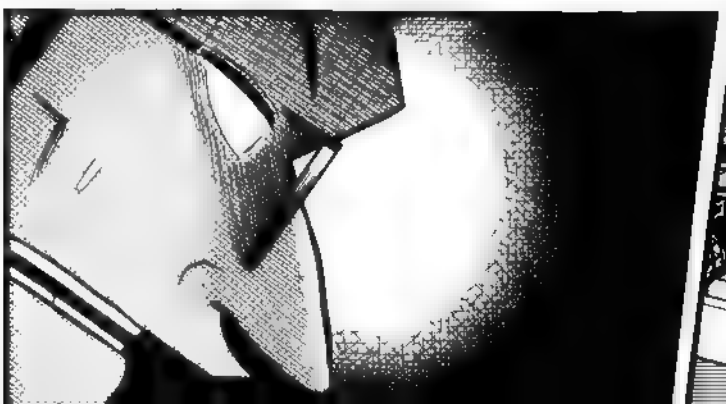

LIKE PILING ITEMS ON A DONKEY ..
IT WILL PILE ON TOP OF EVERYTHING ELSE YOU'VE LOST!

WHETHER IT'S 50 OR 100 CCS I GET FROM YOU...
BUT STILL, EVEN THROUGH TSUMO..

THE FINISHING BLOW!

THIS TIME, FOR CERTAIN!!
THE NEXT BLOOD DRAWN WILL BE THE FINISHING BLOW!
East Seat: Washizu (112,800 points)
Lost Blood: 1,100 ccs
Lost Money: 600 Million Yen
Includes the extra 100 Million added after the 4th Session
6th Session, South 3rd Round
West Seat: Akagi (57,800 points)
Lost Blood: 2,300 ccs
Includes the 500 ccs transfused before the match





KHEH-HEH-HEH...
カチャッ

WHAT IS IT?
HUH?
WHAT'S THIS GUY FIDGETING AROUND ABOUT?!
HE'S SAYING "TWO"...
TWO...?
HUH?

YOU MEAN YOU GOT ANOTHER ONE?!

WHAAAT?

GNGH!

AN OPAQUE AND A GLASS TILE, FOR TWO?!

コク・

コク・

コク・

THAT'S MEANING-LESS!

MEAN-ING.

ON THE DRAW JUST NOW...

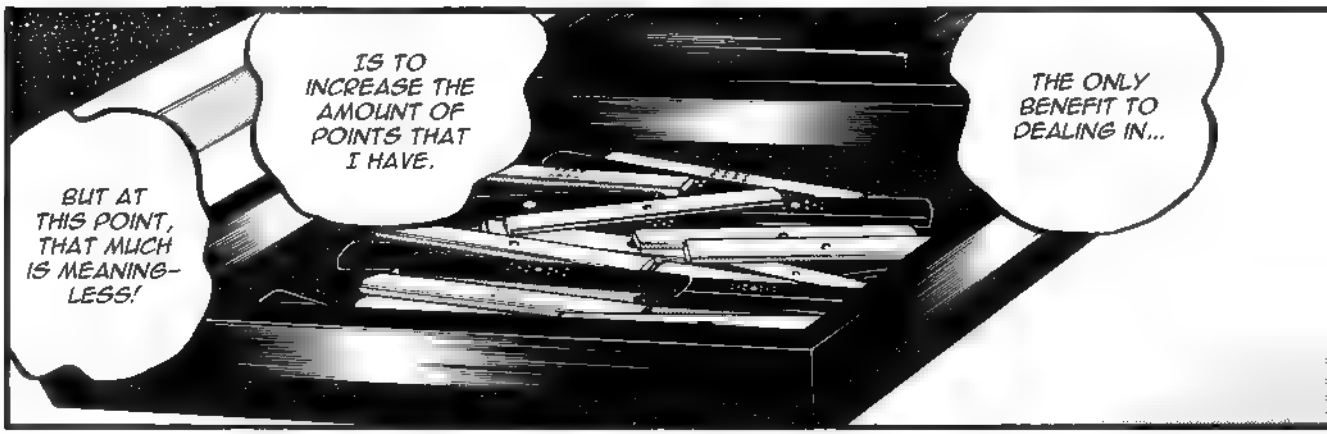
YOU DREW MY WINNING TILE, 1-MAN...

TWO OF THE 1-MAN?!

YOU HAVE TWO TILES...

Suzuki's Hand

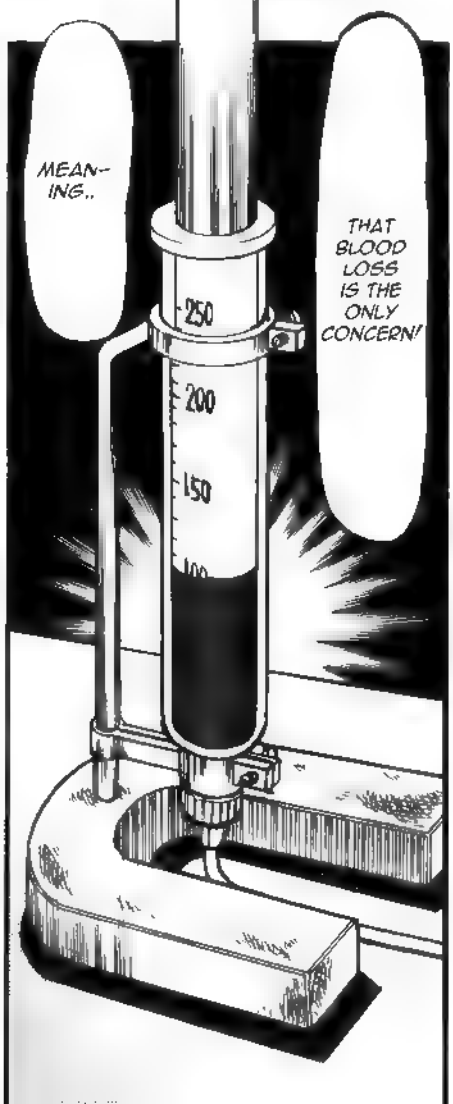
I ONLY NEEDED YOU TO HAVE 1 TILE TO DEAL IN!
OR MORE APTLY...
DEALING IN IS ONLY THE LAST RESORT!!


THE ONLY BENEFIT TO DEALING IN...
IS TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF POINTS THAT I HAVE.
BUT AT THIS POINT, THAT MUCH IS MEANING-LESS!

IN TERMS OF POINTS, RIGHT NOW...
I HAVE AN OVERWHELMING ADVANTAGE OVER AKAGI!
MY POINTS AREN'T THE ISSUE!
THE ISSUE IS...

THE ONLY THING THAT COULD BE CALLED AN ISSUE RIGHT NOW...
IS THE INSTANCE IN WHICH ANY POINTS...
ARE EXCHANGED BETWEEN AKAGI AND I.
THE BLOOD LOSS!

IN MY DEALER TURN, WHERE AKAGI GETS TWICE THE POINTS FROM ME...
I DON'T WANT TO SPEND ANY MORE TIME THAN I HAVE TO...
WHEN HE GETS A TSUMO!


MEAN-ING..
THAT BLOOD LOSS IS THE ONLY CONCERN!
250
200
150

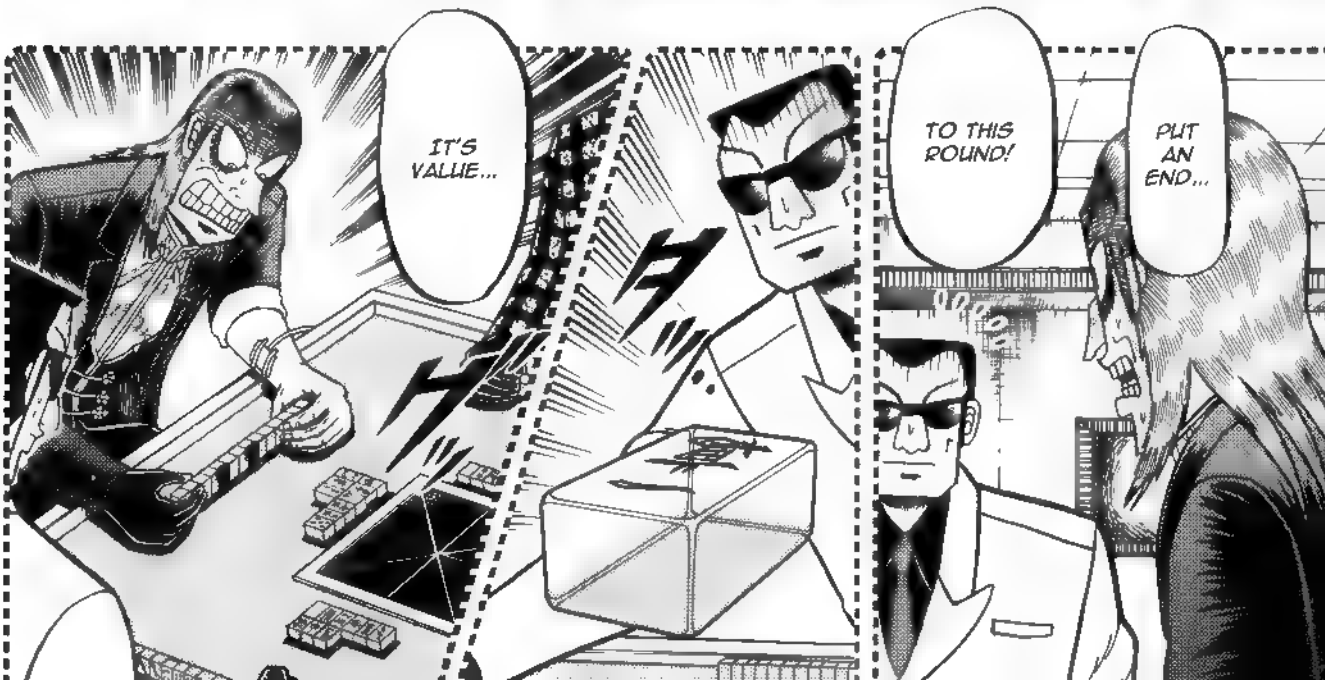
HAVING SUZUKI DEAL IN TO ADD ANOTHER HONBA...
IN OTHER WORDS ...

WOULD BE THE HEIGHT OF FOOLISHNESS!
MAKING ME BE DEALER ANOTHER TIME...
IT'S NOT WORTH CONSIDERING!
AS LONG AS I CAN ESCAPE THIS CASTLE, I WIN!
RIGHT NOW, I AM RUNNING AWAY WITH MY VICTORY.
SO TO KEEP MY DEALER TURN ANY LONGER...
THERE IS NO NEED TO FIGHT, ANY MORE!

WOULD ONLY BE PUTTING MYSELF IN MORE RISK!
STANDING IDLY IN PLACE...
AND ENTERING A MEAN-INGLESS FIGHT TO THE DEATH!!
THE VERY ABSURDITY! IT'S WORTHLESS!

SOMETHING THAT COULD GET ME NOWHERE!
A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME!
HOW-EVER...
IT WOULD BE A FOLLY...
I DON'T NEED THAT IN THE LEAST

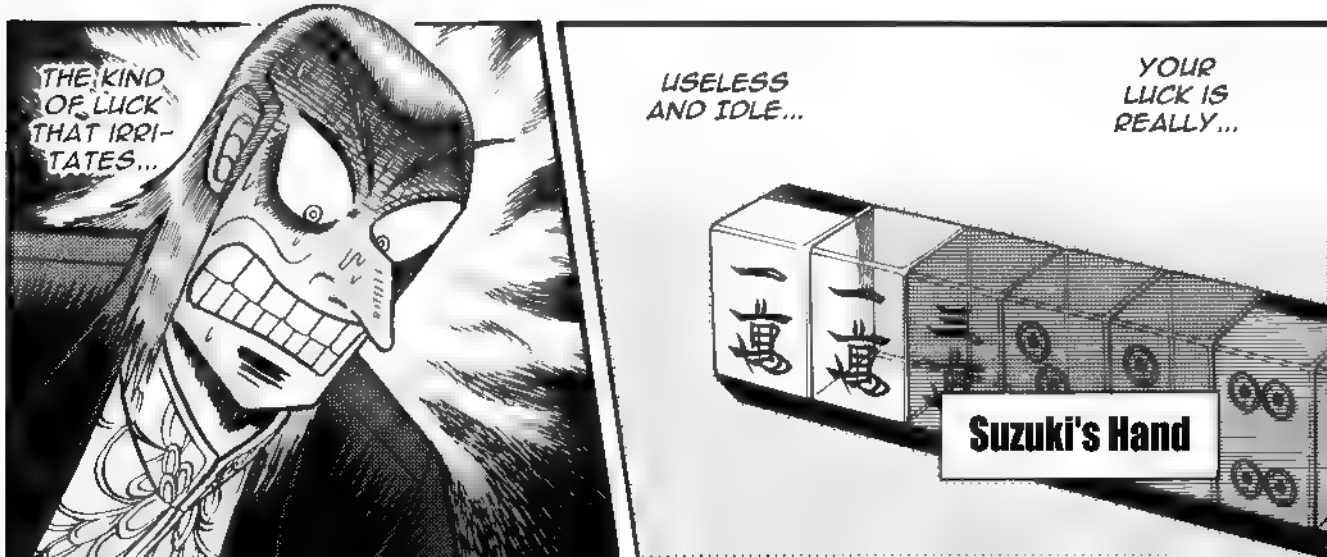
I CAN FORCE-FULLY...
AND I FEEL A SENSE OF UNREST...
EVEN STILL, IF AKAGI'S HAND ADVANCES...


IT'S VALUE...
TO THIS ROUND!
PUT AN END...

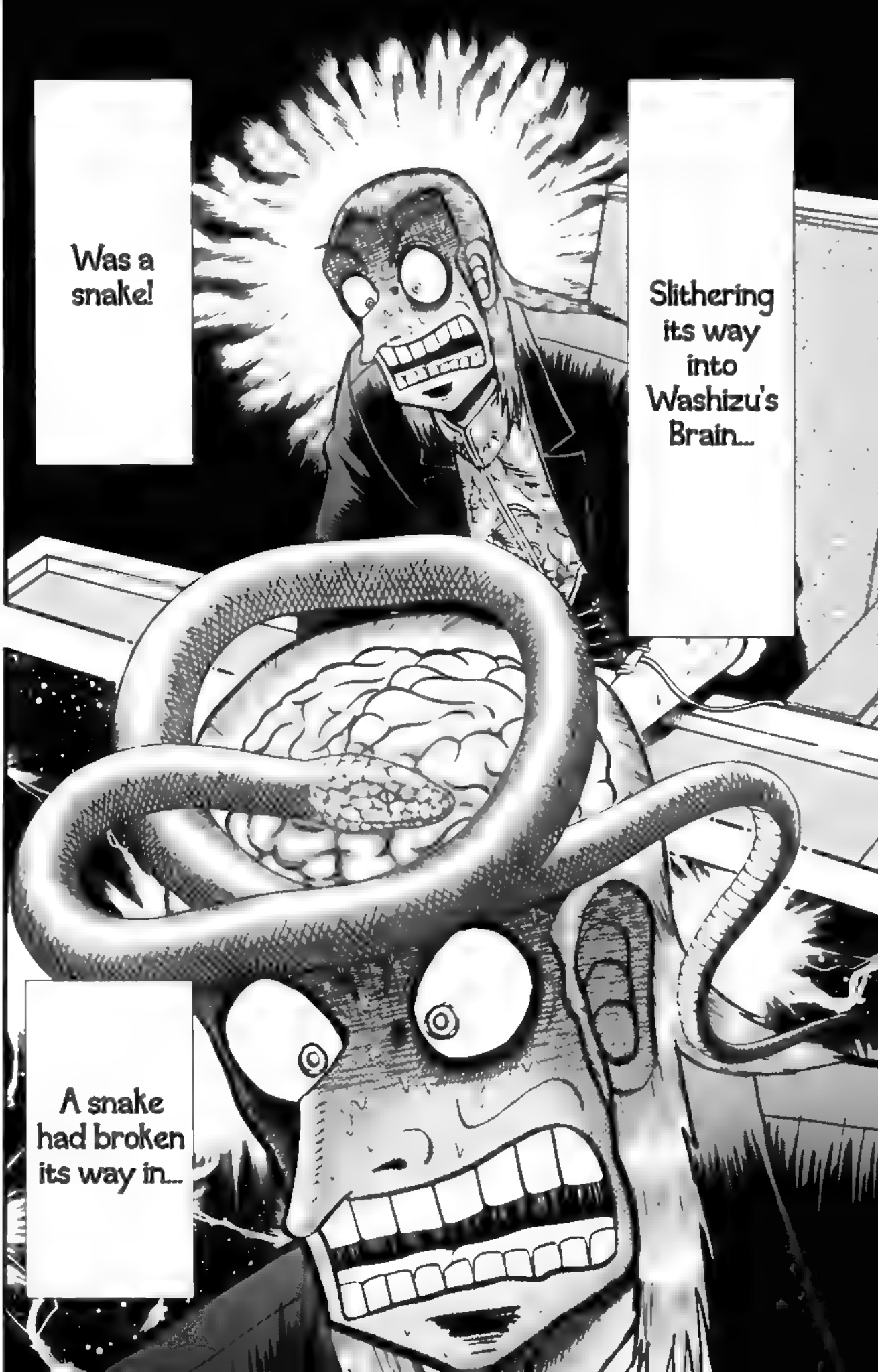
IN WORDS...
IS AS AN EMERGENCY EVACUATION!
バラ…
IS AN EMER-GENCY EXIT!
ALL YOU ARE...
AN EMER-GENCY EXIT!
FUNDAMEN-TALLY...
THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO OFFER!

IT WAS INSIGNIFI-CANT!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE A ROLE THAT WOULD SET MY VICTORY IN PLACE!

AND YOU GOT TWO OF THEM?!
YOUR CONTRIBUTION WAS INSIGNIFI-CANT, FROM THE BEGINNING!


THE KIND OF LUCK THAT IRRI-TATES...
USELESS AND IDLE...
YOUR LUCK IS REALLY...
Suzuki's Hand

AH...!!
At that moment...


Was a snake!
Slithering its way into Washizu's Brain...
A snake had broken its way in...

CAN'T THIS KILL...

AKAGI SHIGERU...?

CAN'T THIS LET YOU SET... A TRAP....?
AHHH ...!!

THAT'S IT!
THAT'S EXACTLY IT!! YES!

AROUND AKAGI SHIGERU'S NECK...!!

I MIGHT BE ABLE TO WRAP A NOOSE...

第219話安直
Chapter 219: CHEAP

I MAY BE ABLE TO WRAP A NOOSE...

IF I CAN MAKE USE OF IT HERE...

THIS SECOND 1-MAN THAT SUZUKI DREW...

Suzuki's Hand

IT CAN KILL AKAGI SHIGERU, THE SNAKE TOLD ME!

THAT'S RIGHT!

YES!

YOU SHOULD GO RIGHT AGAINST MY 1-MAN WAIT!

IN WHICH CASE...

TAKE MY WINNING 1-MAN...

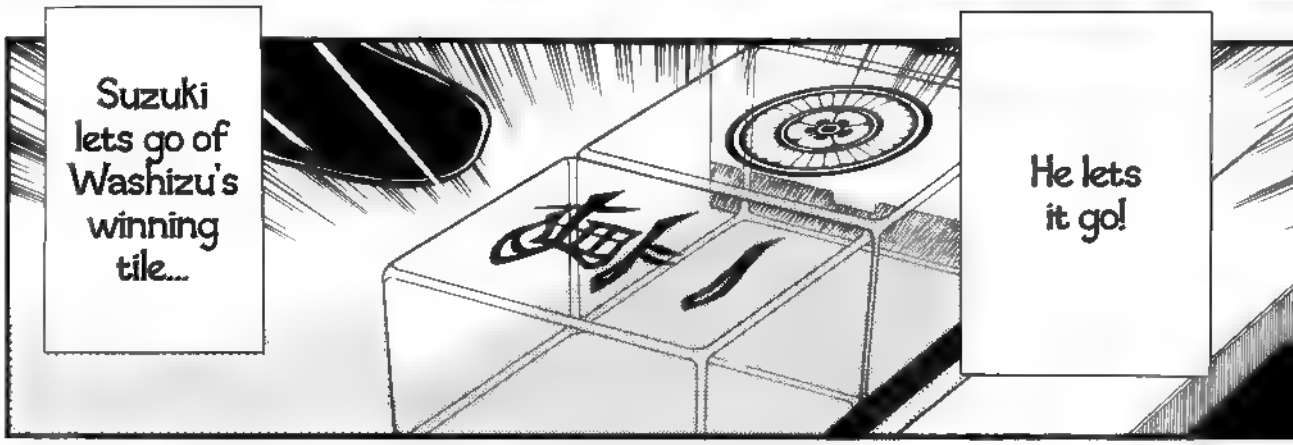
Washizu's 1-4 Man Wait

A SNAKE WHISPERED TO ME!

IT WAS A SNAKE! A SNAKE, I SAY!!

Suzuki's Hand

AND PLAY IT!


Suzuki lets go of Washizu's winning tile...
He lets it go!

And although he can...
Washizu is able to call Ron at this point.
Since the 1-Man gives his hand the yaku of Chanta...
The 1-Man for Washizu's 1-4 Man Wait!
The 1-Man!
Washizu's Tenpai: 1-4 Man Wait

He overlooks it!

He overlooks it, letting Akagi draw...
He gives Akagi a move!
Yes!
カチャ

In Suzuki's hand!
Washizu still has another opaque 1-Man...
Even if he doesn't win right now...
Mean-ing...
Suzuki's Hand
And while still ensuring that...
The possibility of an emergency evacuation through dealing in is still alive!
Washizu's 1-4 Man Wait
Then, think-ing funda-men-tally...
If Washizu continues to deal what he draws...
After Suzuki dealt the 1-man...
He used up one of the 1-Man as a trap.
Suzuki's Discards

If it were on 1-Man...
It would mean that Washizu's wait is not, in fact, on 1-Man!
Then he would have won just then!
Nor-mally, that is!
For him to uselessly deal his winning tile, 1-Man!
It would be un-think-able...
Leaving the 1-Man as it was within Suzuki's hand.
He should have been allowing room for Suzuki to deal in...
I UNDER-STAND!

HE'S NOT THAT KIND OF MAN!

I KNOW THAT MUCH FULL WELL!

……

IN THIS KIND OF TRAP!

WILL NEVER GET CAUGHT...

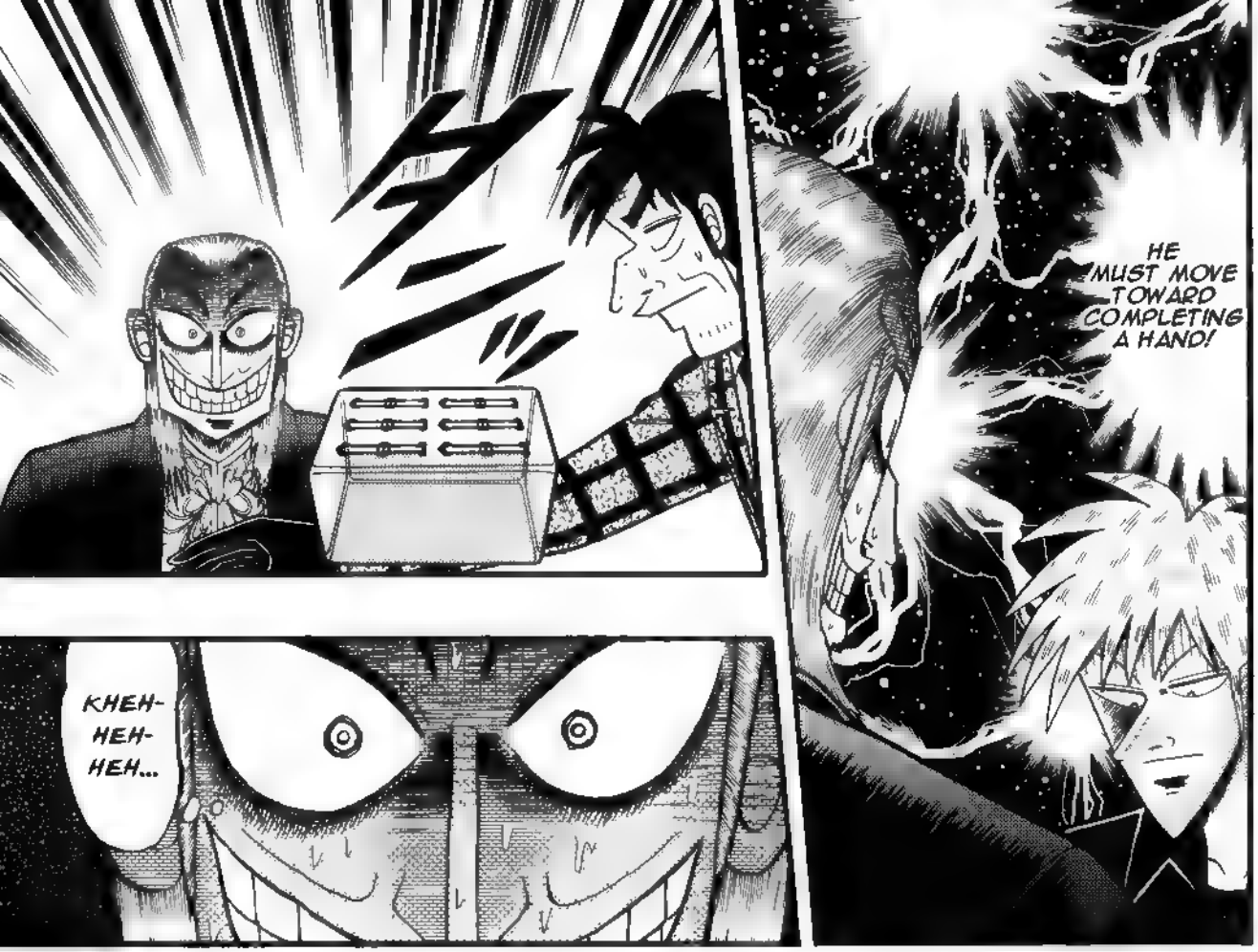
I KNOW THAT AKAGI...

KHEH-
HEH-
HEH...

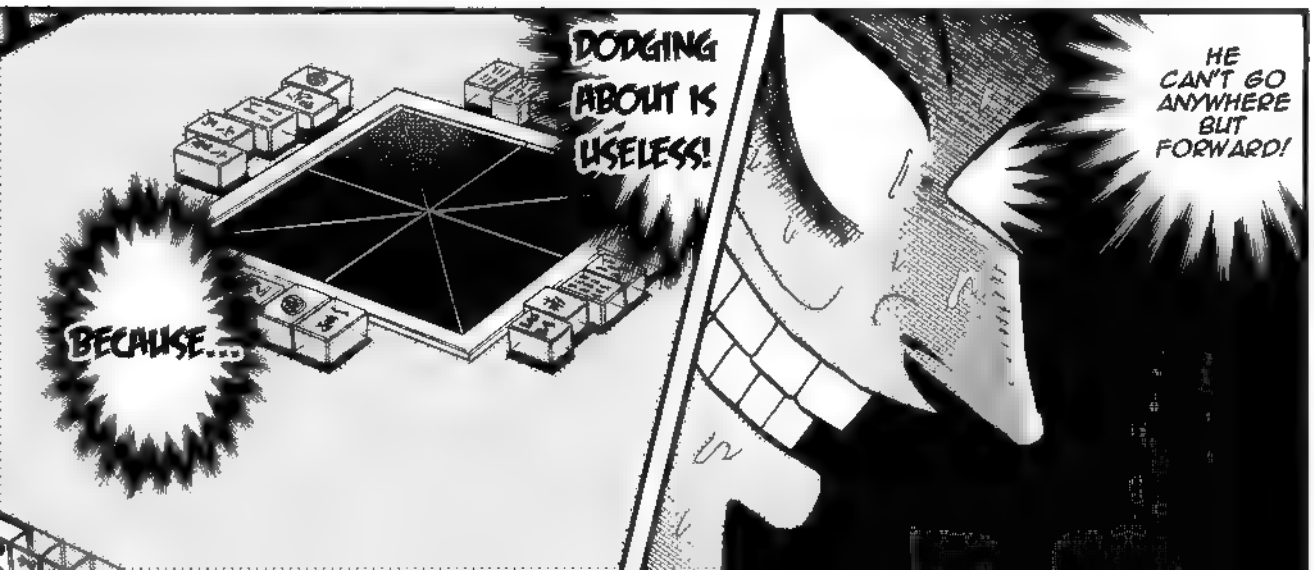
BUT...

RIGHT
NOW, HE IS
BACKED INTO
A CORNER!

HE
MUST
GET A
HANEMAN
TSUMO.
OR A
MANGAN
DIRECT
HIT!
IN THE
NEXT TWO
ROUNDS...


HE MUST MOVE TOWARD COMPLETING A HAND!
KHEH-HEH-HEH...

HE HAS TO FORGE AHEAD!


DODGING ABOUT IS USELESS!
BECAUSE...
HE CAN'T GO ANYWHERE BUT FORWARD!

I AM IN TENPAI!!
IT IS FACT!!

RIGHT NOW!
ALREADY!

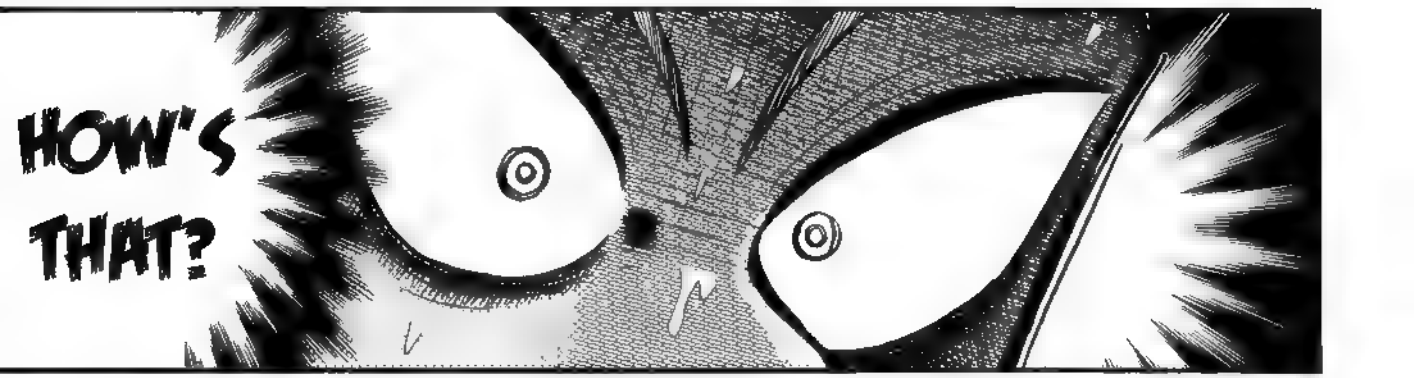
QUICK-LY...
AND SUD-DENLY!
THAT IS WHY!

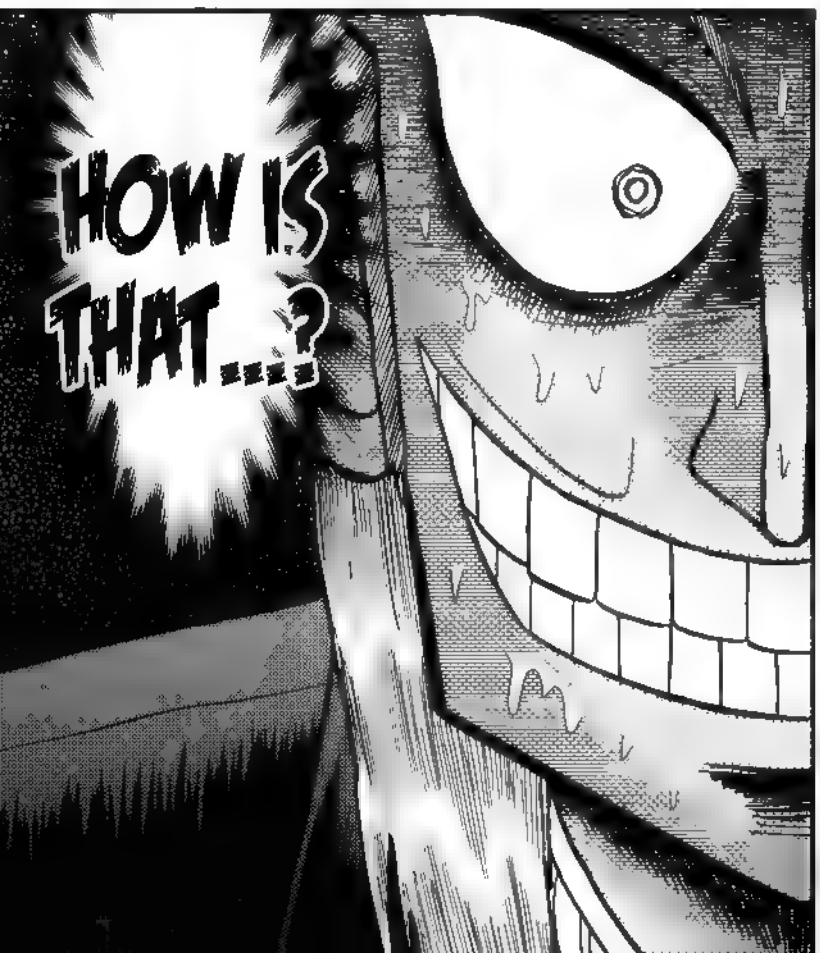
TO DRAW MY WINNING TILE!!

IF I DRAW IT...
HE'LL DIE...!
RIGHT NOW, EVEN SOME-THING LIKE 50 CCS...
WOULD BE ENOUGH...

WITH THE 1- OR 4-MAN...
TO PUT A NAIL IN HIS COFFIN!
KHEH-HEH...

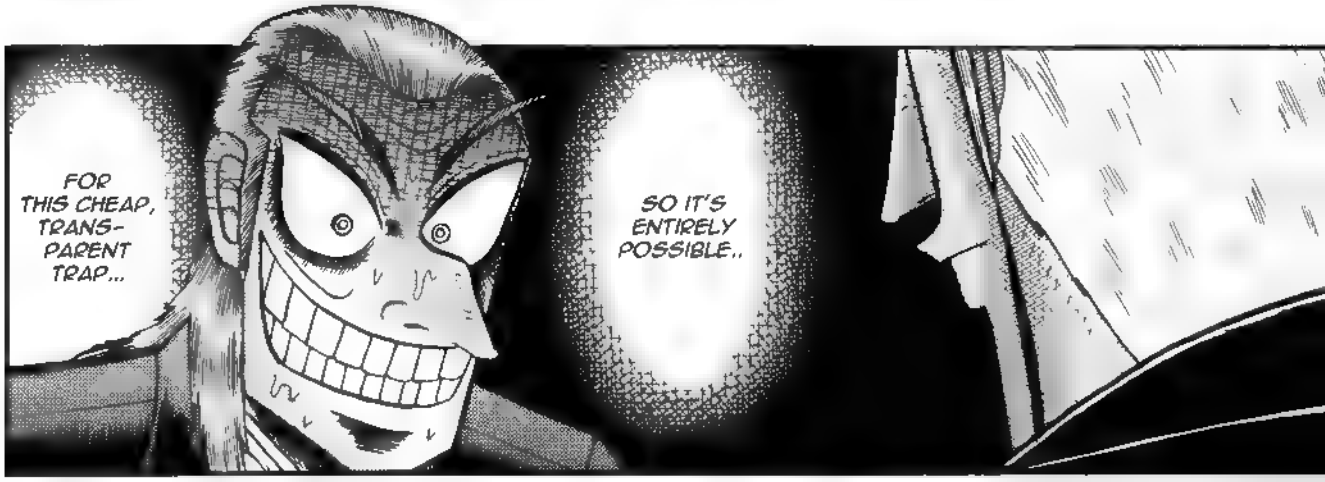
WELL... THAT'S HOW IT IS!
EH- HEH- HEH...


HOW'S THAT?


HOW IS THAT...?

HOW'S THAT?
HOW'S THAT?
HOW'S THAT?

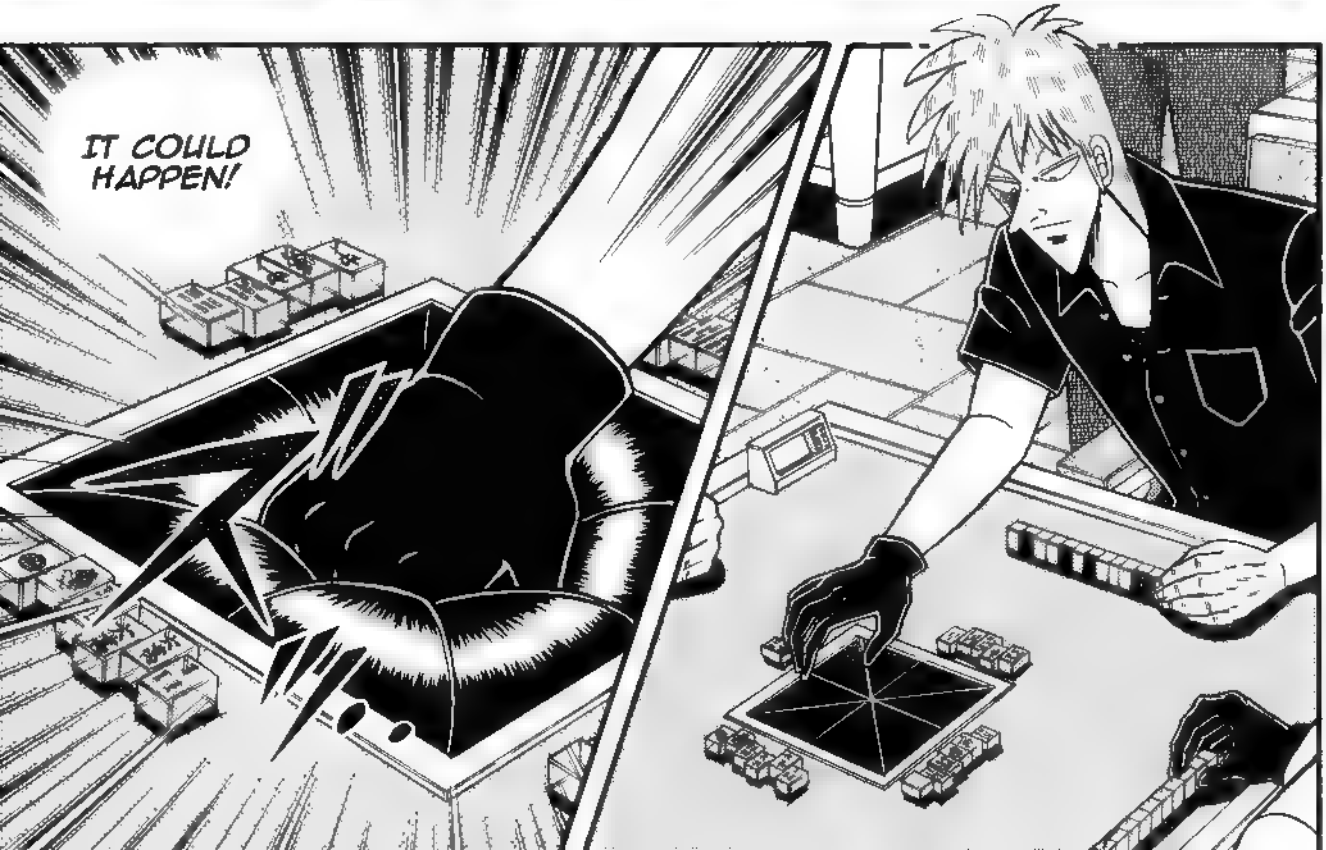
THAT KIND OF TIME..!
YOU NO LONGER HAVE...
YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO DODGE AROUND, RIGHT...?


FOR THIS CHEAP, TRANS-PARENT TRAP...
SO IT'S ENTIRELY POSSIBLE..

Suzuki's Discards: 1-Man Discarded
Washizu's 1-4 Man Wait
TO ENSNARE AKAGI!!

AN EXCESS 1-MAN...!
IF AKAGI HAPPENS TO DRAW...

IF HE DRAWS IN A 1-MAN...


IT COULD HAPPEN!

PITI-
FULLY...
CLUM-
SILY...
HE COULD DEAL IN TO ME!!
キュッ...
SUDDENLY...

HE COULD DEAL IN...!

AH...!

DID HE DRAW...

DID HE DRAW IT?
DID HE DRAW IT?
THAT TILE THERE...
IS THE TILE HE JUST DREW...
MY...
IS...
IT...

第220話 真逆
Chapter 220: OPPOSITES

I CAN'T USE THE 4-MAN FOR CHANTA!

WHICH MEANS...

I CANNOT WIN ON IT!

BUT HAVING SAID THAT, THE 4-MAN

KHEH-HEH-HEH...

1-MAN!

1-MAN!

IT MUST BE 1-MAN!

1-MAN!

MY WINNING TILE, 1 OR 4-MAN?!

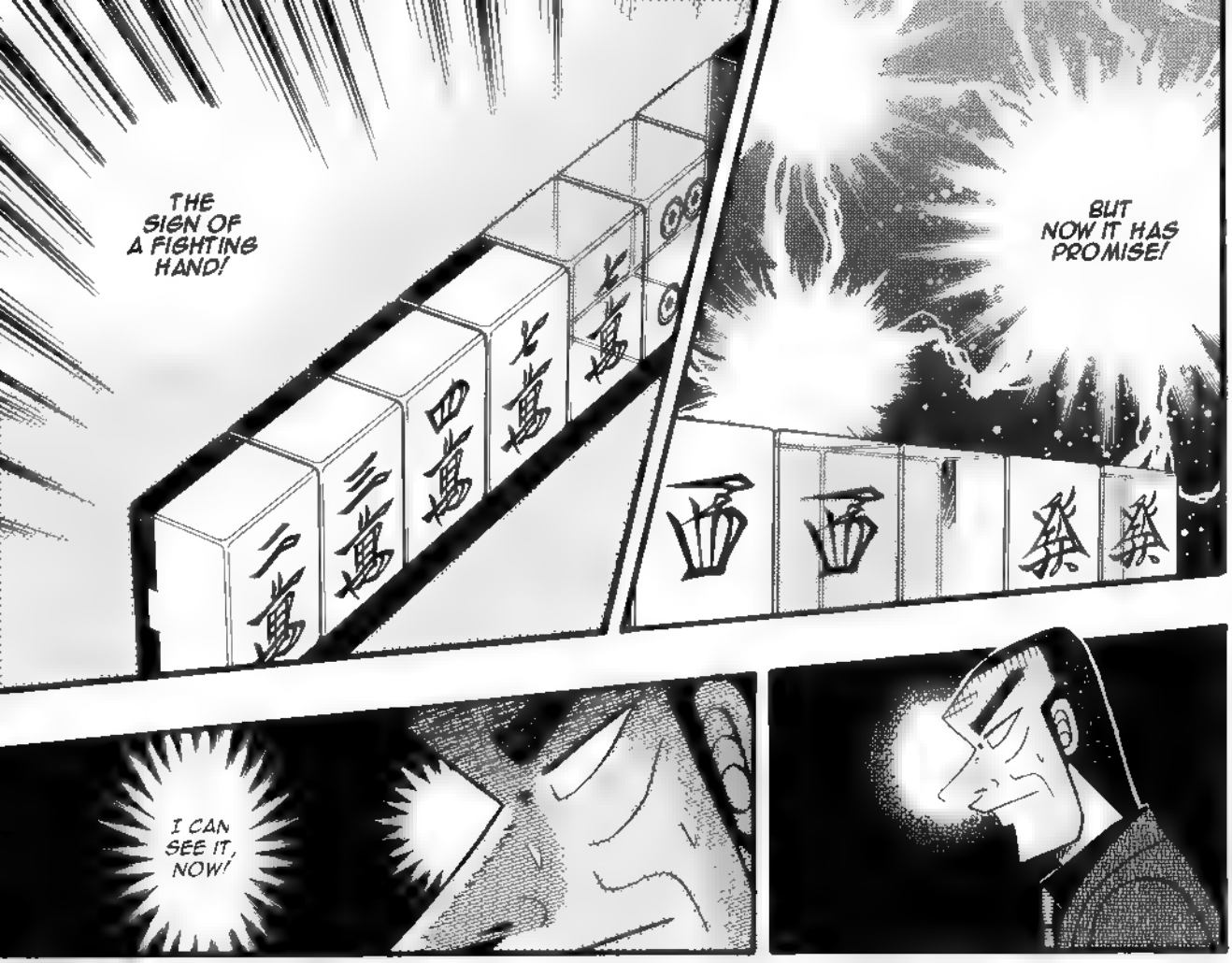
Washizu's 1-4 Man Wait

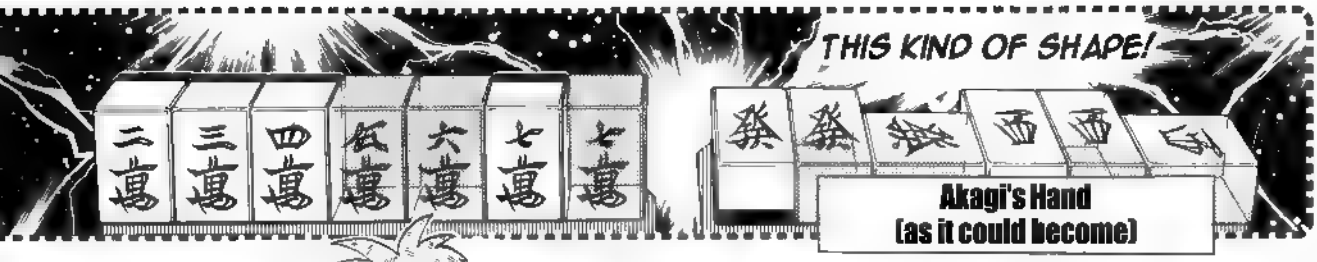
The 6th Turn.

SO HOW IS IT?

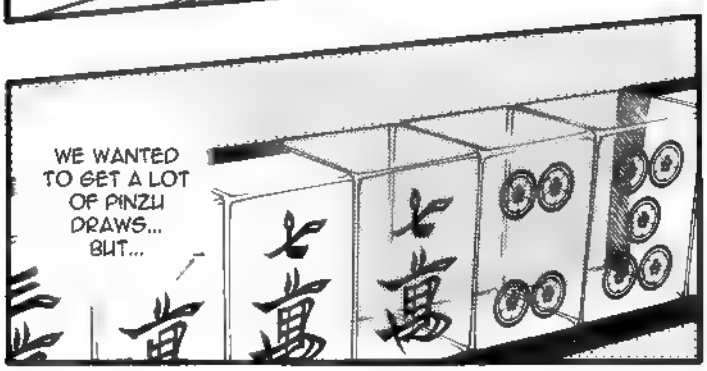
The tile that Akagi drew...

.....
WAS 4-MAN!
THERE IT IS!
HE'S GATHERED THEM UP!
THE CHANCES OF EVEN GETTING TO MANGAN WITH IT WERE DIM...
LET ALONE A HANE-MAN...
A STARTING HAND THAT DIDN'T AMOUNT TO ANYTHING.
IT WAS AWFUL...
Akagi's Starting Hand


THE SIGN OF A FIGHTING HAND!
BUT NOW IT HAS PROMISE!
I CAN SEE IT, NOW!


THIS KIND OF SHAPE!
Akagi's Hand
(as it could become)

I CAN SEE THAT MANGAN HAND!
HON ITSU OF MANZU!
OF COURSE...



East Seat:
Washizu (112,800 points)
Lost Blood: 1,100 ccs
Lost Money: 600 Million Yen
*Includes the extra 100 Million added after the 4th Session

6th Session, South 3rd Round
West Seat: Akagi (57,800 points)
Lost Blood: 2,300 ccs
*Includes the 500 ccs transfused before the match

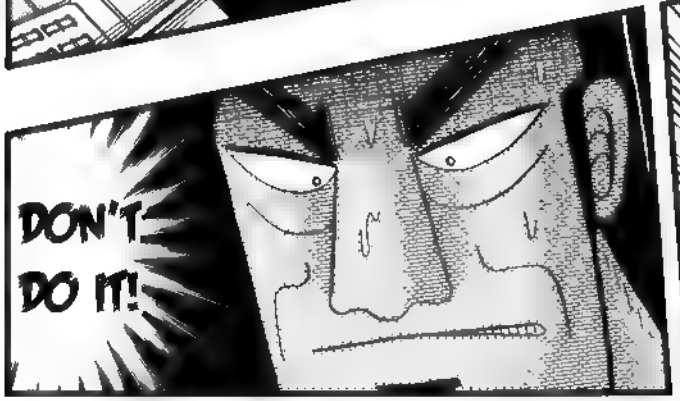
THAT MUCH IS CLEAR!
WASHIZU'S HAND IS FAST!
Washizu's Hand

THERE'S A 998 CHANCE HE'S IN TENPAI, SO...
ALREADY IN TENPAI!
HE'S PROB-ABLY...

AKAGI DOESN'T HAVE...
FOR THIS HON ITSU!
WE CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR A DIFFERENT SUIT...

WE'VE GOT NO TIME TO LOSE!

THAT KIND OF TIME!!


DON'T DO IT!

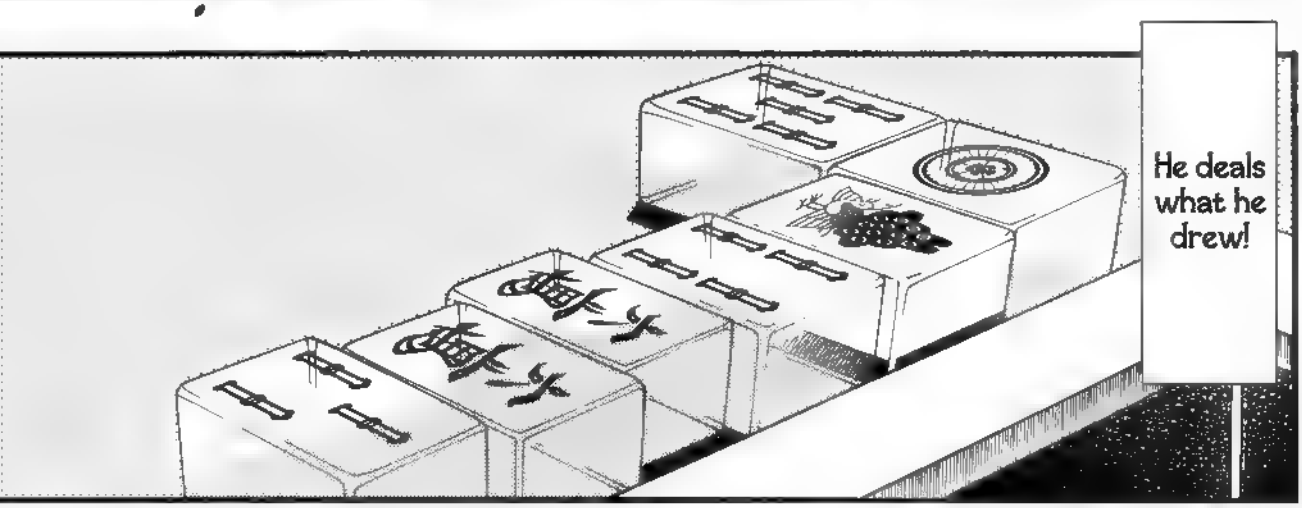
GNGH!

DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!
DON'T DO IT!

DON'T DRAW IT!
GIVE AKAGI JUST A BIT MORE!
A LITTLE BIT MORE TIME TO WORK WITH!
GIVE HIM MORE TIME!
A LITTLE MORE TIME!!

GGH!

KEH!
.....
.....


He deals what he drew!

They escaped him!
But he did not draw it on the 6th or 7th turns...
Washizu reached tenpai on the 5th turn...
二萬
三萬
七萬
八萬

ESCAPE HIM!
HE LET TWO CHANCES TO TSUMO...
Time!
Something he could not do without...
A dia-mond!
He was given a trea-sure...
Akagi's life was extended!
And as a result...

By adding more time!!
The chance to keep his life...
But that said...
Akagi's position was shaky!
He was at a crippling disadvantage!
Right now...

For, above all...
If he could not draw something helpful, he would be in dire straits!
His opponent was Washizu.
Washizu Iwao, with the luck of an Emperor.
It would be difficult to imagine that Washizu, with his godly luck...
Could be in Tenpai...

And not draw his winning tile for much longer.
He would most likely draw it...
Within the space of one or two more turns.
Which is why...

Akagi wanted to draw it here...
To pro-long his life!
Dark-ness!

NOT GETTING TO TENPAI WOULD BE FINE!

PULL IN...

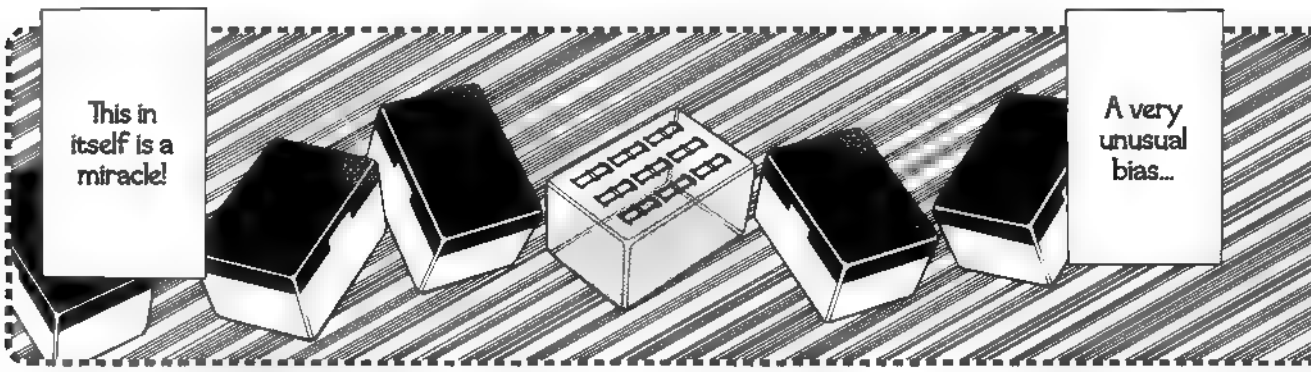
AS LONG AS HE COULD GRAB HOLD OF DARKNESS...

YES... DARKNESS!

THE DARKNESS!!

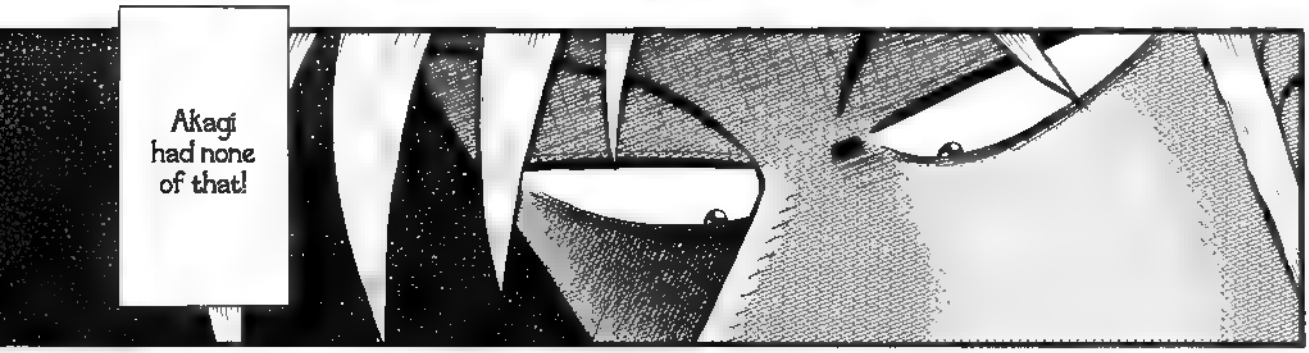
The tile Akagi drew was opaque!
GNGH!
Another Opaque Tile!

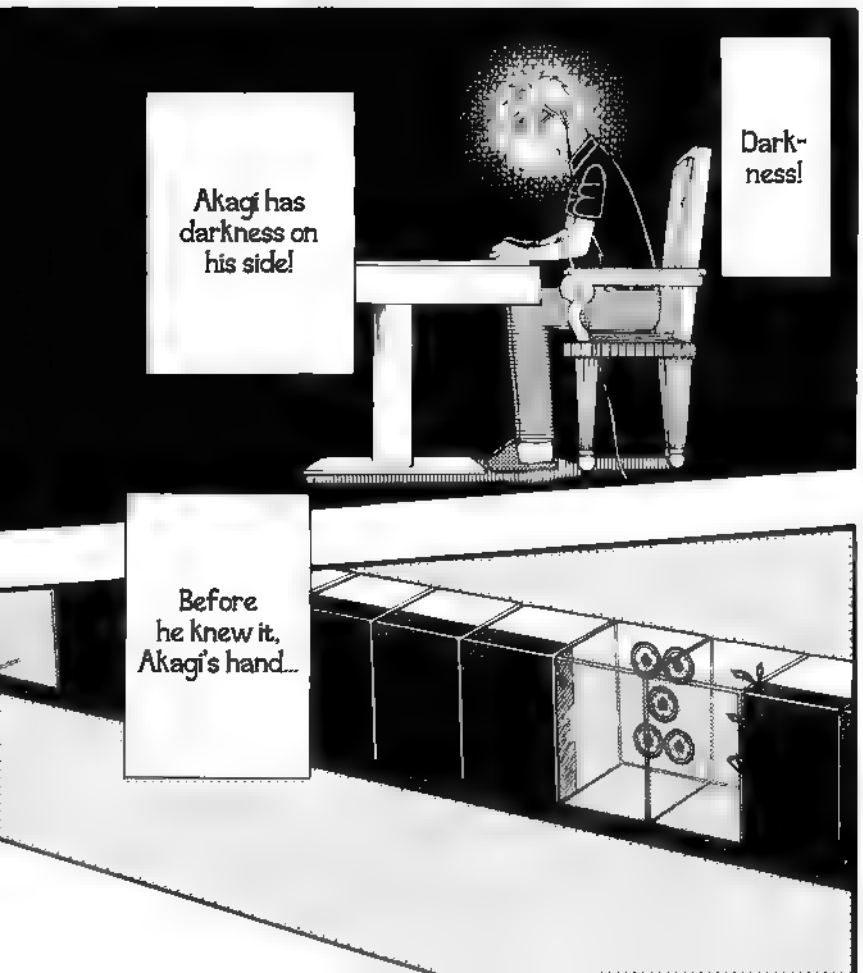
6 of them have been Opaque Tiles!
Of the 7 draws Akagi has had to now...
It is the 7th turn.
HUHHHH?
HUH?

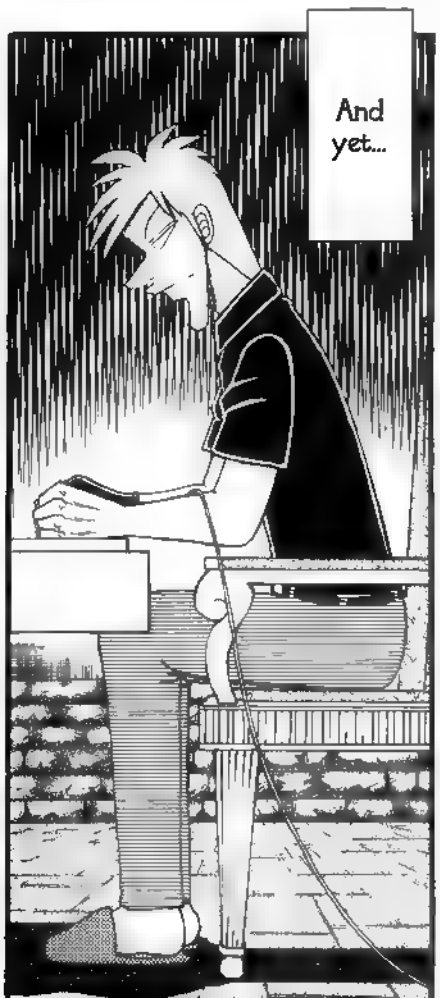

This in itself is a miracle!
A very unusual bias...

Washizu had always been favored.
.....
.....
.....
For, thinking back...
It is miraculous!

He advanced, guiding his army with the force of a Tsunami!
He charged forward!
With his heavenly, godly luck on his side...
And thus...
He is favored by the Gods above!


Akagi had none of that!


Akagi has darkness on his side!
Dark-ness!
Before he knew it, Akagi's hand...


And yet...

WAS COMPLETELY CLOAKED IN DARKNESS!!

Akagi's Hand

That he was very likely in tenpai...

Such that one could plainly see...

While Washizu's hand had many transparent tiles...

Washizu's Hand

Making it difficult to tell if he were in Tenpai!

Had many opaque tiles...

Akagi...

Akagi's Hand

HMPH!

The two hands were complete opposites!

WHAT IS THIS?!

CAN I RULE OUT CHII TOITSU...?

CHII TOI-TSU?

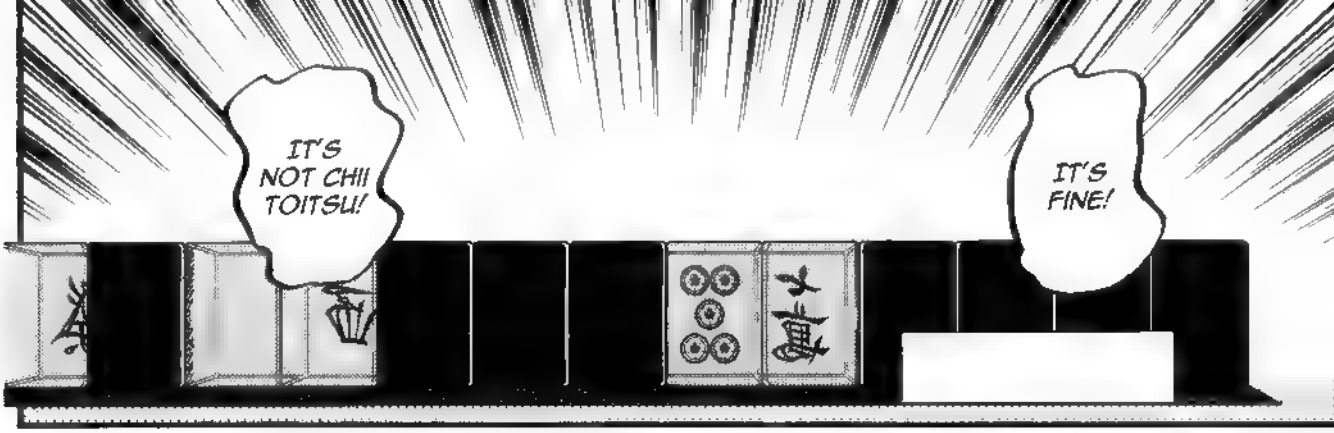
COULD IT PER-HAPS BE...

A NORMAL HAND IS OUT, BUT...

The two were in stark contrast!

COULD IT BE?

IS HE IN TENPAI?


IT'S NOT CHII TOITSU!
IT'S FINE!

SO IT CAN'T BE CHII TOITSU TENPAI!
THERE'S 8 OPAQUE TILES...

SO THERE'S NO NEED TO CONSIDER IT!
IT'S NOTEN, NO MATTER HOW YOU SEE IT!

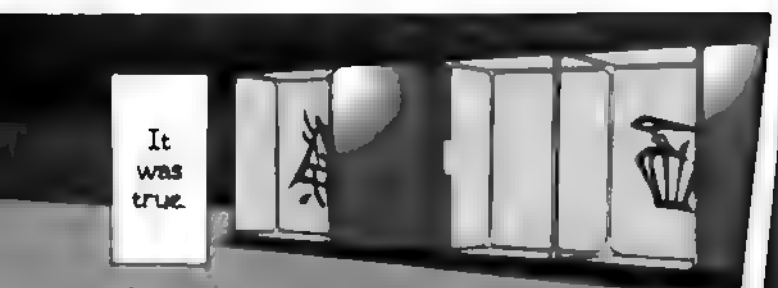
EVERY-THING'S FINE!!
THERE'S NO PROBLEM THERE!

EVERY-
THING'S
FINE!
IT'S FINE!
IT'S FINE!

HE'S
STILL
NOTEN!
HE'S NOT
GETTING GOOD
DRAWS!
ALL HE DID
WAS MAKE HIS
HAND MORE
OPAQUE.
Akagi's Hand

IT'S
FINE!!

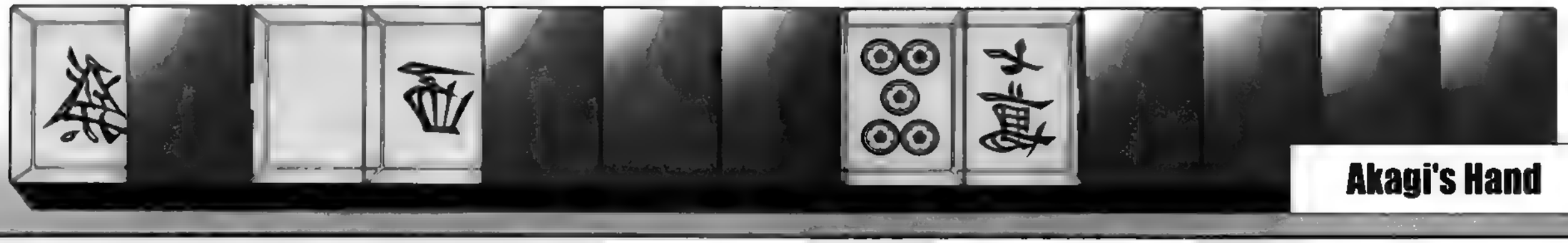
HE'S STILL
WADING AROUND
IN THE MUCK!


It
was
true.

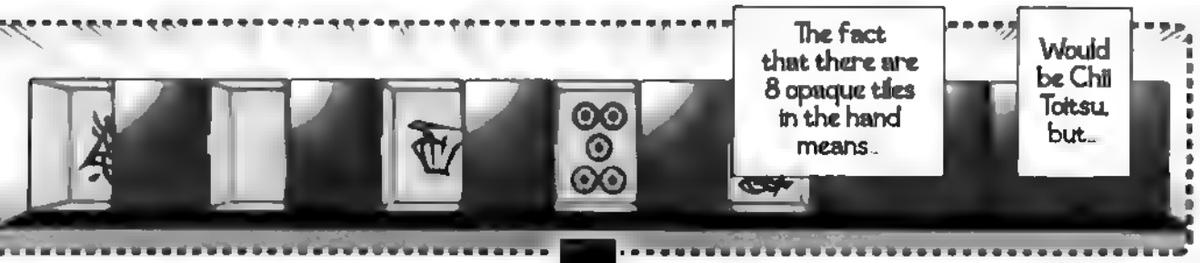
第221話 一変
CHAPTER 221: TOTAL CHANGE

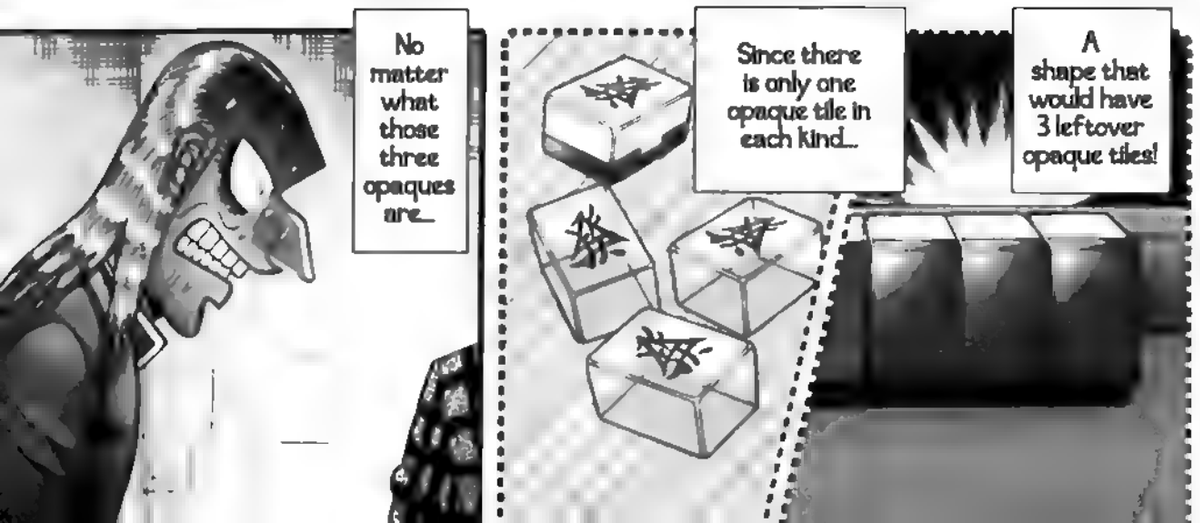
This hand has no way of being in Tenpai!

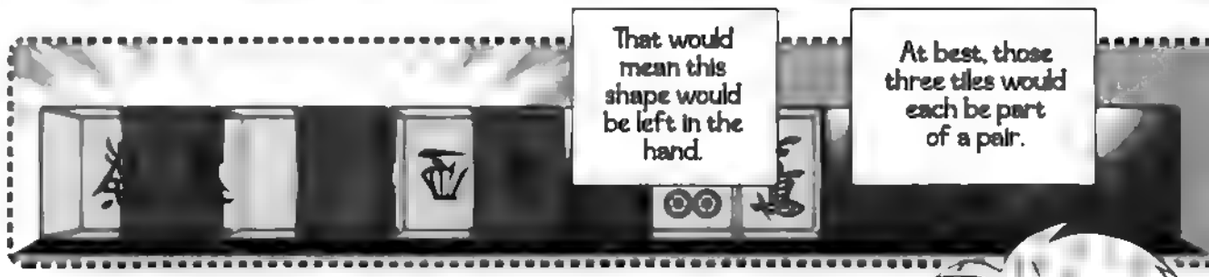
It was just as Washizu said!

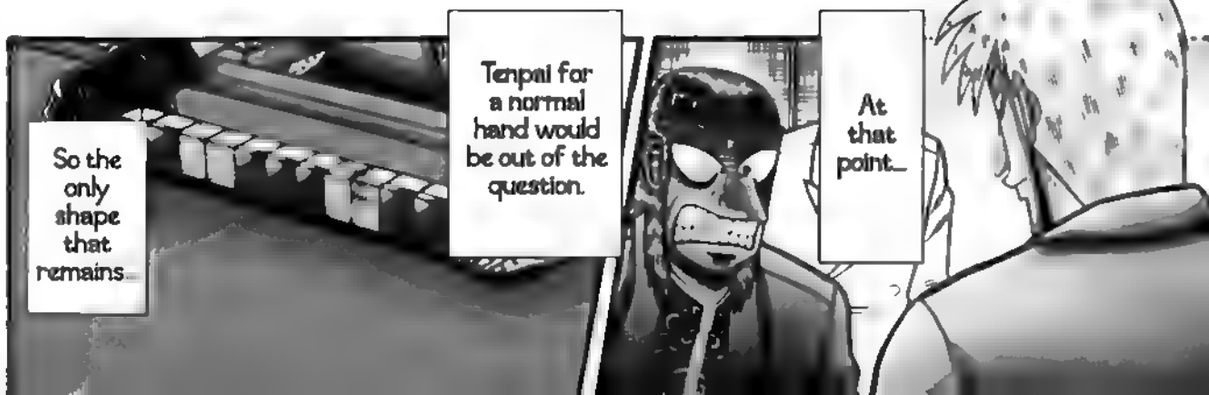


Akagi's Hand

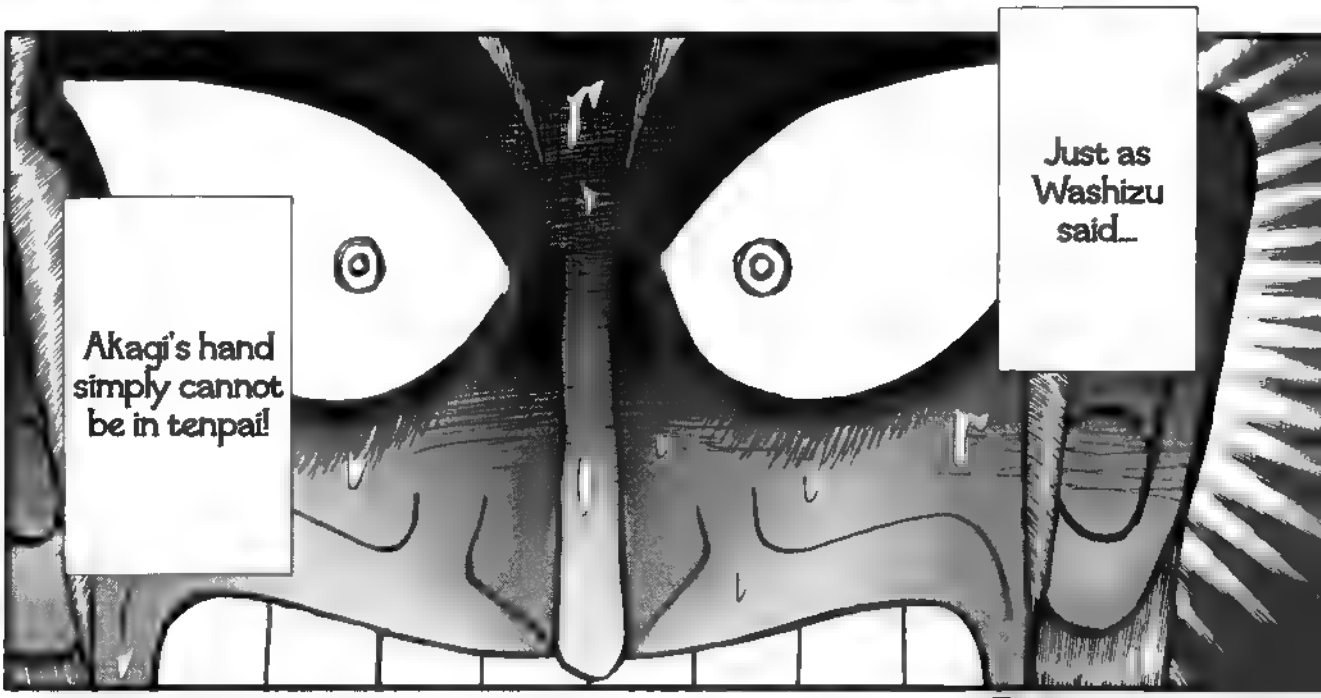



No matter what those three opaques are...
Since there is only one opaque tile in each kind...
A shape that would have 3 leftover opaque tiles!





And thus...
There is no possibility of a pair!
They are scrambled!


Akagi's hand simply cannot be in tenpai!
Just as Washizu said...

How-ever...

That is only true...
How-ever...
How-ever... How-ever...
FOR THE TIME BEING!!

チカッ…

WHAT!?

カシッ

ヤッ…

Yes!

PON!!

It begins by calling pon on Yasuoka's Xia!
WHAT?
WHAT?
WHAT?
And then...

PON!!
On his Hatsu, as well!
Indeed...
WHAT?!

Without giving Washizu a chance to think or move around it...
Akagi calls on two Fanpai in a row!
It happens in an instant!
In the blink of an eye, Akagi's hand...

GGH...!
Has undergone a complete change!!
Just a moment ago...
It had been noten.
In other words, it had no walls, no barracks, no moat...
A structure entirely unprepared for war.
Akagi's Hand (a moment ago)

And yet, in that situation...
A few tired soldiers scattered around an open field.
It was like...
Akagi had constructed a fortress!
Covering himself in darkness...

FOR THIS ILLUSION OF A FORTRESS!!

Akagi's Hand

He imagines!

Washizu imagines the worst!

Mean-ing...

In other words...

The only hint was the 7-man, alone!

A fortress of unknown size and shape!

Cloaked in darkness...

But this 7-man...

Actually drives Washizu further into the forest of illusions!

A Hon Itsu hand of Manzu!!

Akagi's Hand
(as it could be)

HANEMAN...

IT COULD REACH HANEMAN?!

AND WINS OUT ON THE NEW DORA...

WHAT ...?!

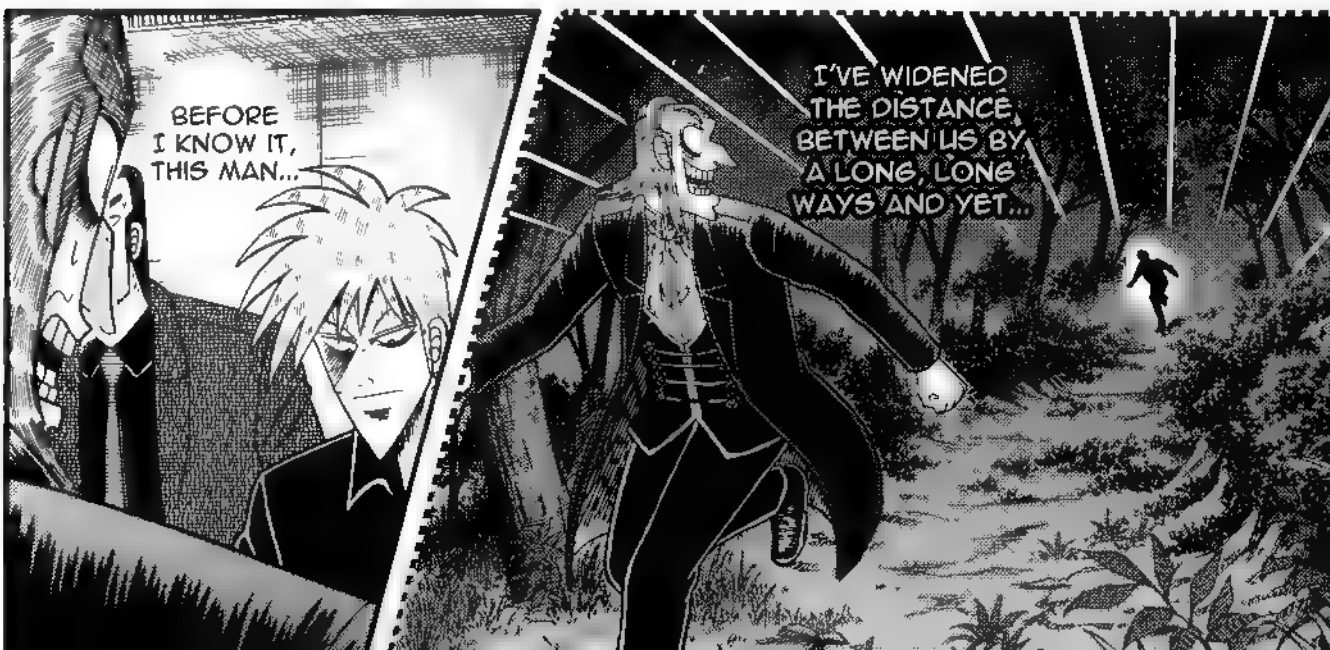
THAT WOULD REACH MANGAN!!

AND THE 2 HAN OF HON ITSU...

WITH TWO TRIPLETS OF FANPAI...

IF AKAGI GETS A KAN WITH THAT HAND...

AGAIN!!
PREPOSTEROUS!
I'M FAR AWAY!
IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN!

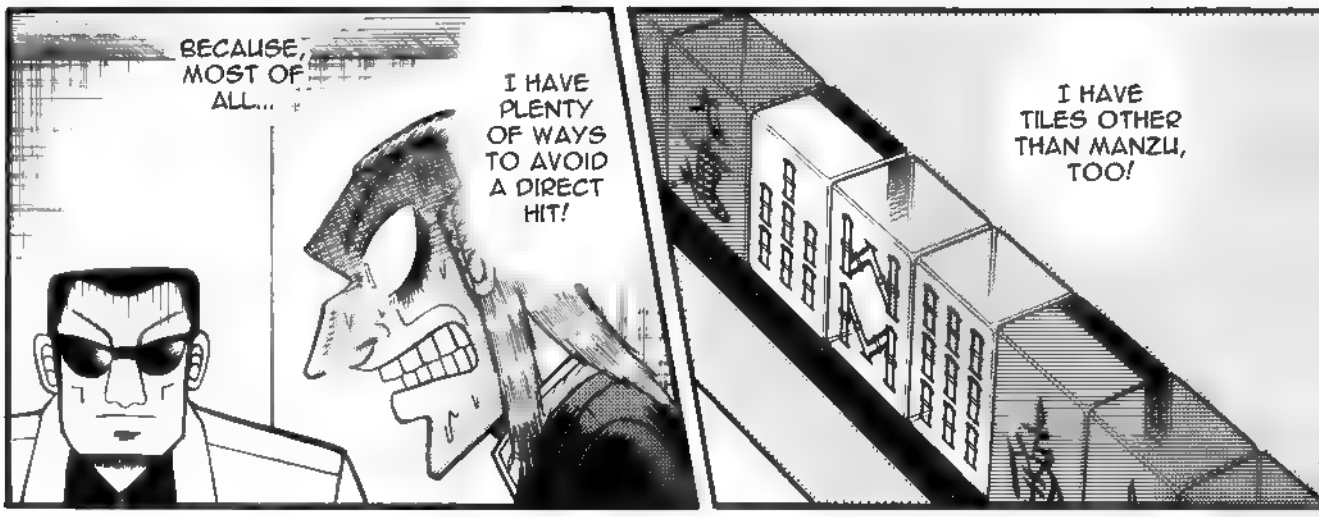

BEFORE I KNOW IT, THIS MAN...
I'VE WIDENED THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US BY A LONG, LONG WAYS AND YET...

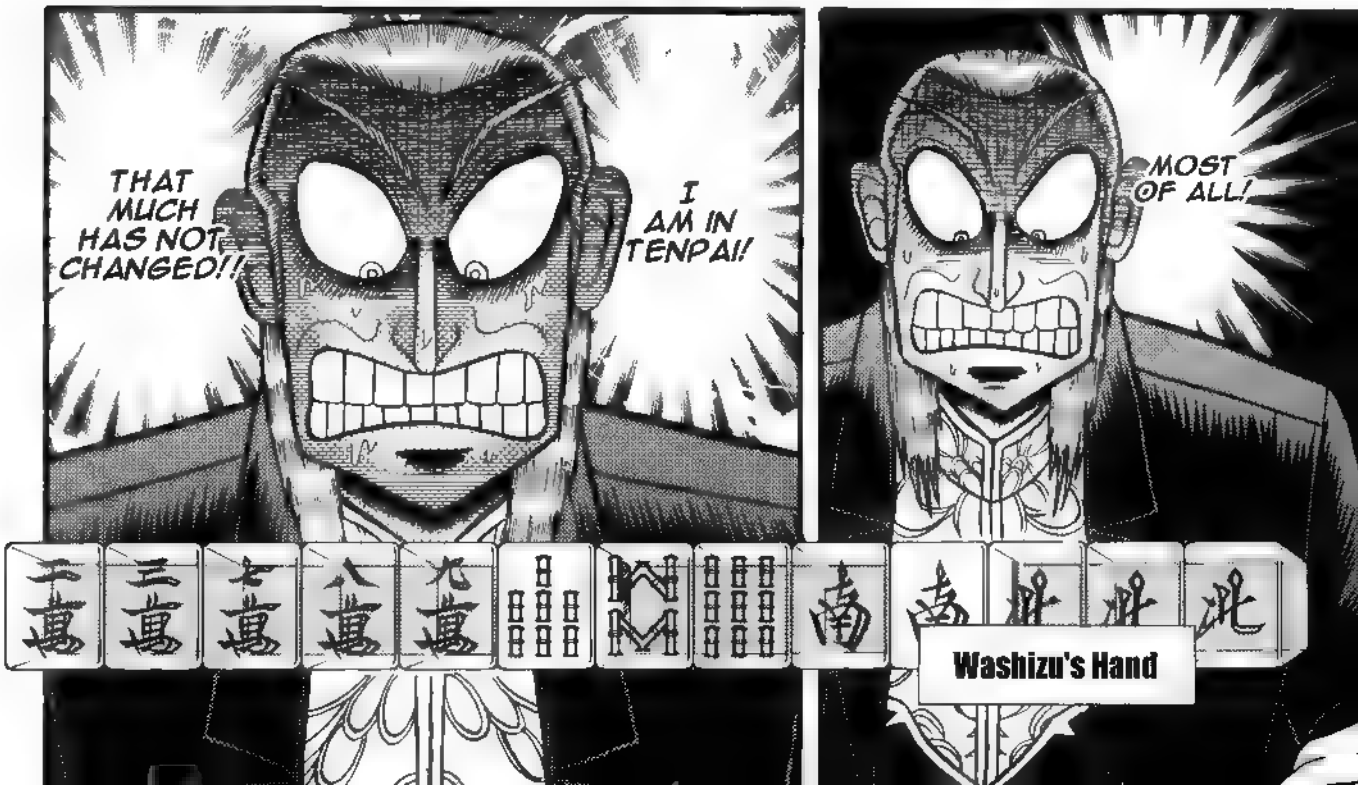
IS WAITING FOR ME!!
HE IS RIGHT BEFORE ME...
SQUATTING IN MY PATH...

BLOCKING MY PATH TO VICTORY!!
AND BLOCKING ME!!
HOW CAN THIS BE HAPPEN-ING...
TIME AND TIME AGAIN?

WAIT!
NO, WAIT!
CALM DOWN!
NO...
IT KEEPS HAPPEN-ING!!
IS HE REALLY IN TENPAI?!
Akagi's Hand
CAN'T BE MORE THAN 1%! AND BESIDES...
THE CHANCE OF THAT HAND BEING TENPAI...
IS MORE LIKE PESTERING ME!
THAT KIND OF THING...

I HAVE NAN, TILES HE'S ALREADY PLAYED!
Akagi's Discards
EVEN IF HE'S THERE ALREADY...
Washizu's Hand


BECAUSE, MOST OF ALL...
I HAVE PLENTY OF WAYS TO AVOID A DIRECT HIT!
I HAVE TILES OTHER THAN MANZU, TOO!


THAT MUCH HAS NOT CHANGED!!
I AM IN TENPAI!
MOST OF ALL!
Washizu's Hand

IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN A BLUFF!
MAKING IT LOOK LIKE HE'S CAUGHT UP! THAT'S ALL!
THAT MAN IS JUST PUTTING ON A PERFOR-MANCE...
YES!
THAT'S RIGHT!
DO NOT FORGET THAT!
I HAVE THE LEAD!

I'LL WIN!!
I'LL DRAW IT AND WIN!!
THE 1-MAN...
OR 4-MAN!!

NO MATTER WHICH ONE IT IS...
ぎゅっ
IF I DRAW IT..
ううう

Akagi 25 / Fin

アカギ㉕／完

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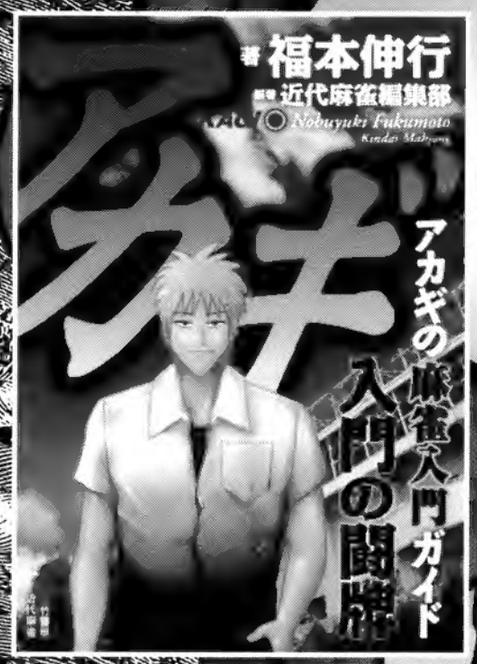

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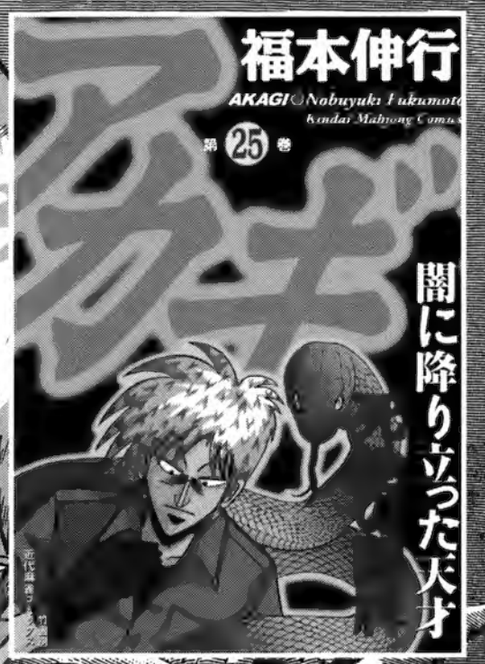

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